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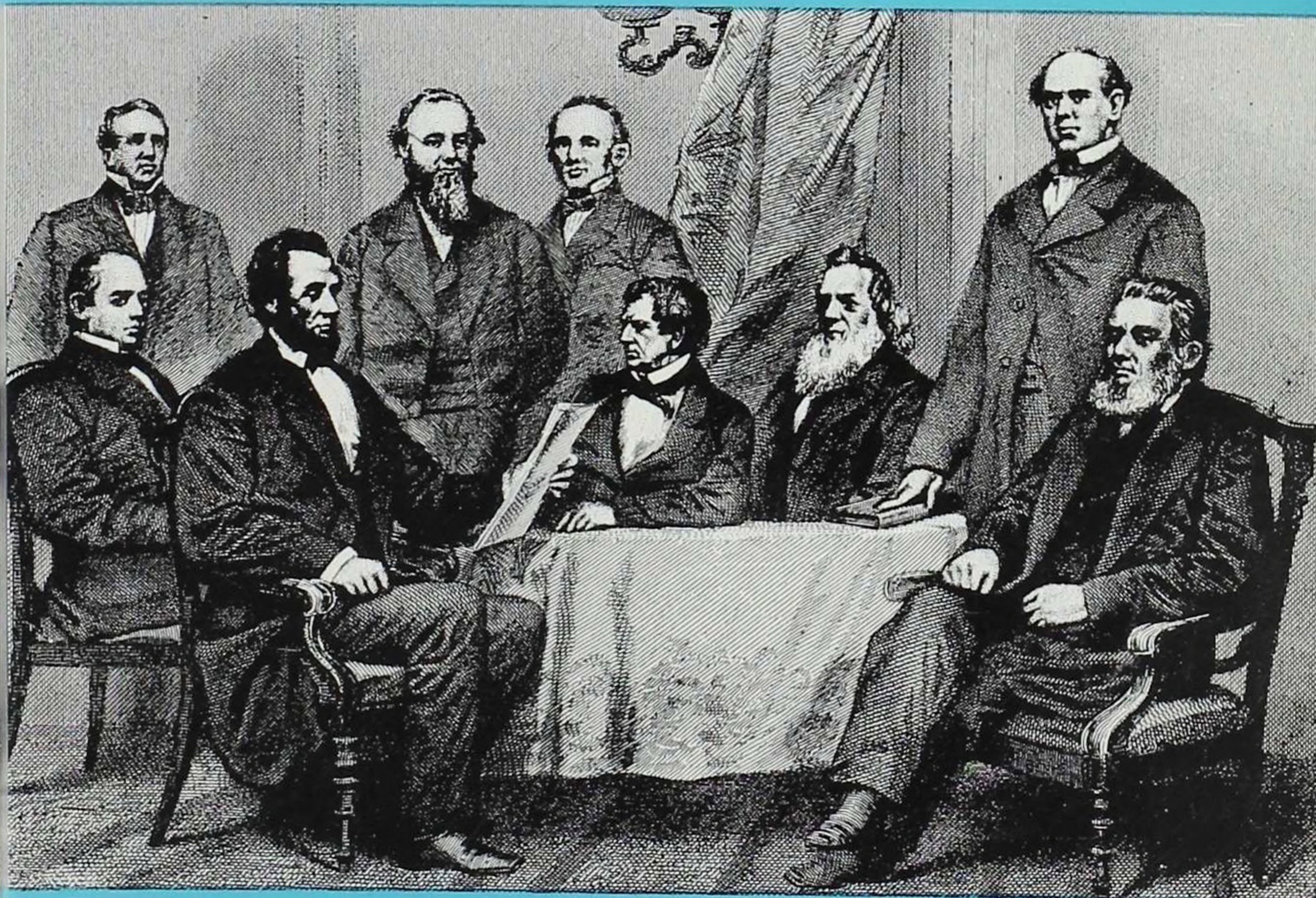
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# *The* **PALIMPSEST**



Lincoln Reads His Emancipation Proclamation

**Abraham Lincoln**

Published Monthly by

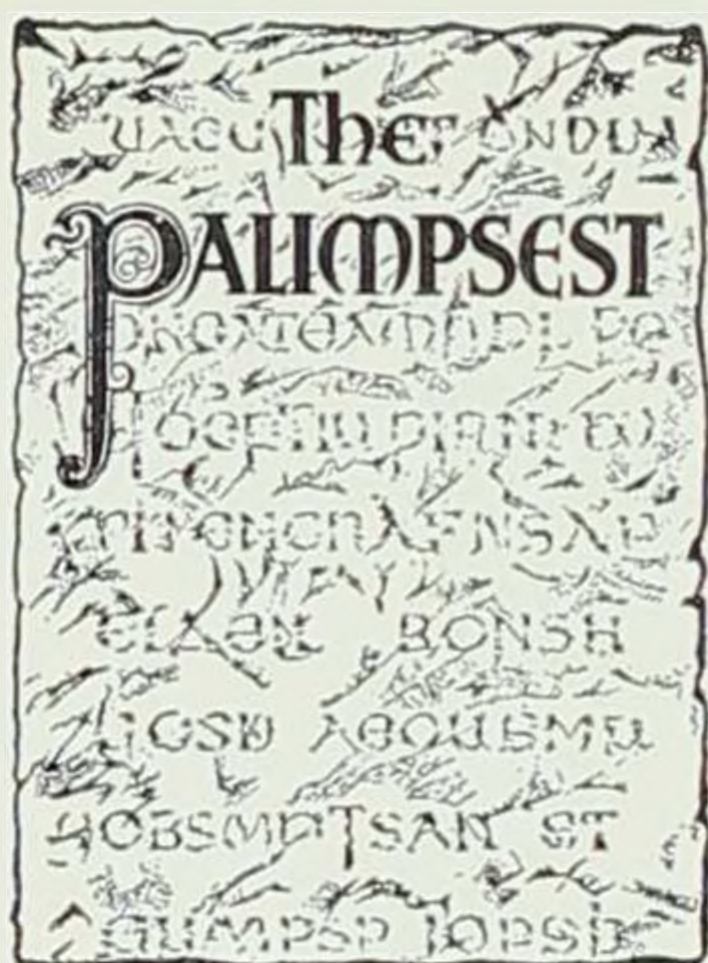
**The State Historical Society of Iowa**

Iowa City, Iowa

**FEBRUARY, 1960**

**SPECIAL CIVIL WAR EDITION — FIFTY CENTS**





## The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the record of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

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## Illustrations

All photos are from the State Historical Society Collection unless otherwise noted. Ray Murray furnished the photos of Lincoln statues for his article.

## Authors

William J. Petersen is Superintendent of the State Historical Society.

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"A Lincoln Chronology" is taken from the *Handbook of Information* issued by the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission.

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# THE PALIMPSEST

EDITED BY WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

VOL. XLI

ISSUED IN FEBRUARY 1960

No. 2

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## Lincoln and Iowa

Speech delivered by William J. Petersen, Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, before a Joint Session of the 53rd General Assembly of the State of Iowa on February 11, 1949.

On February 12th all Iowans will unite to pay their respects to Abraham Lincoln, a man whom many consider the greatest American this nation has produced. It is fitting that the Fifty-third General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to honor Lincoln, for in doing so it is but following the precedent of the Thirty-third General Assembly which forty years ago passed a law making Lincoln's birthday a legal holiday in Iowa. This was back in 1909 when the nation was celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birth. It is interesting to note that this act was the first bill adopted by the Thirty-third General Assembly, the first measure to reach Governor Beryl F. Carroll's desk, and the first to receive his signature.

It is indeed appropriate that the lawmakers of this state should observe Lincoln's birthday, for



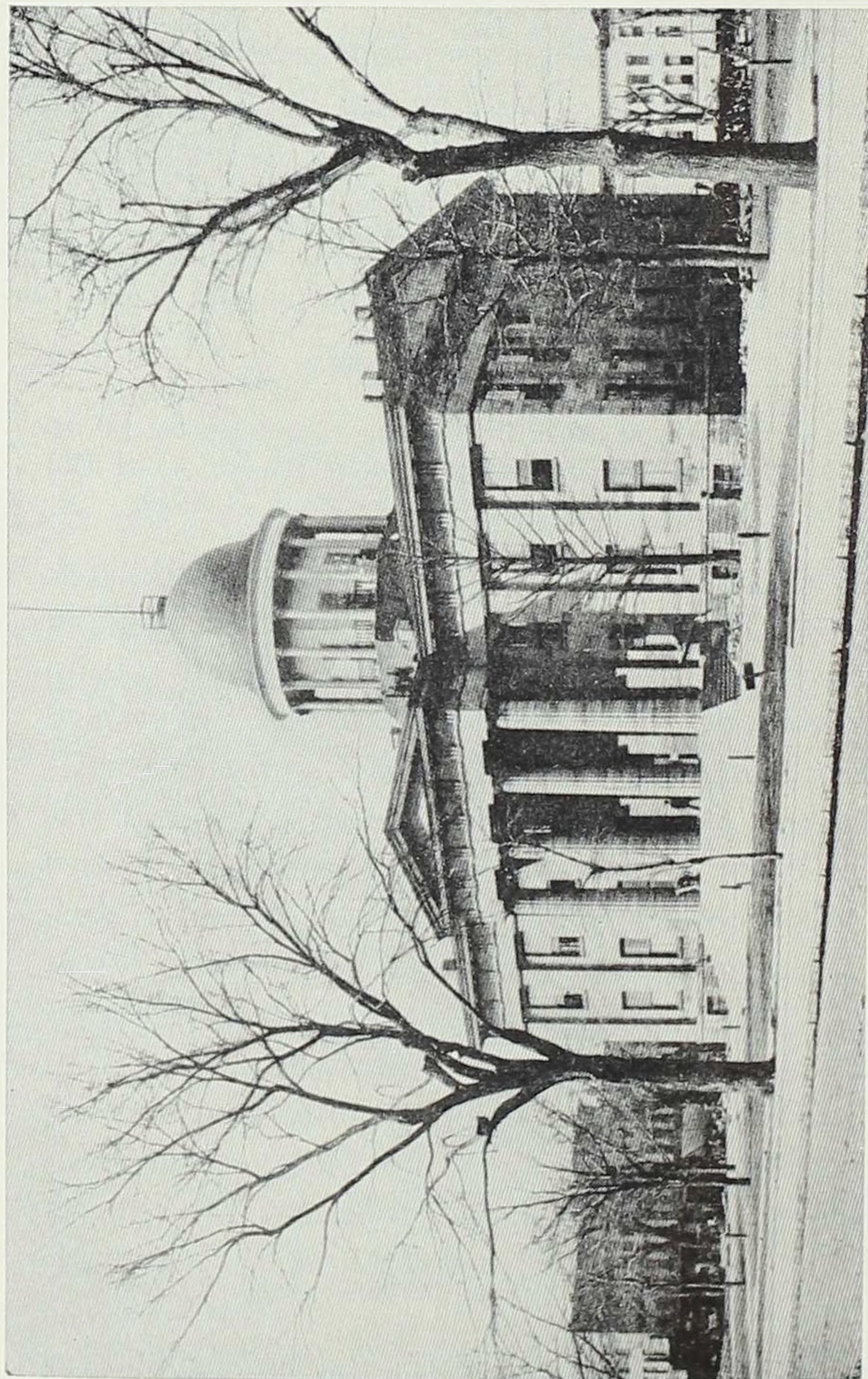


Photo Courtesy Illinois State Historical Library

Illinois State Capitol at Springfield

*"A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free." June 17, 1858*



Lincoln himself was both a lawmaker and a lawyer. Actually Lincoln was elected to the Illinois legislature at the age of twenty-five, three years before he was admitted to the bar. Only one member of this Fifty-third General Assembly is as young as Abe Lincoln was when he entered the Illinois legislature in 1834.

As a young man Lincoln was introduced by sheer accident to Blackstone's *Commentaries*. He soon developed a deep respect for the majesty of the law. Years later he declared: "Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to her lisping babe; let it be taught in schools and in colleges; let it be written in primers, spelling books and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. Let it become the political religion of the nation; and let old and young, rich and poor, grave and gay sacrifice unceasingly on its altars."

Most Iowans are fairly familiar with the life of Lincoln. A few of them (and they are widely scattered throughout the state) have become ardent Lincoln students. Foremost among these is Judge James W. Bollinger of Davenport, who has willed his collection of 3,500 Lincoln books to the State University of Iowa. The Bollinger library (valued at more than \$50,000) is not only the finest collection of Lincolniana in Iowa, but is unquestionably the best private Lincoln collection in

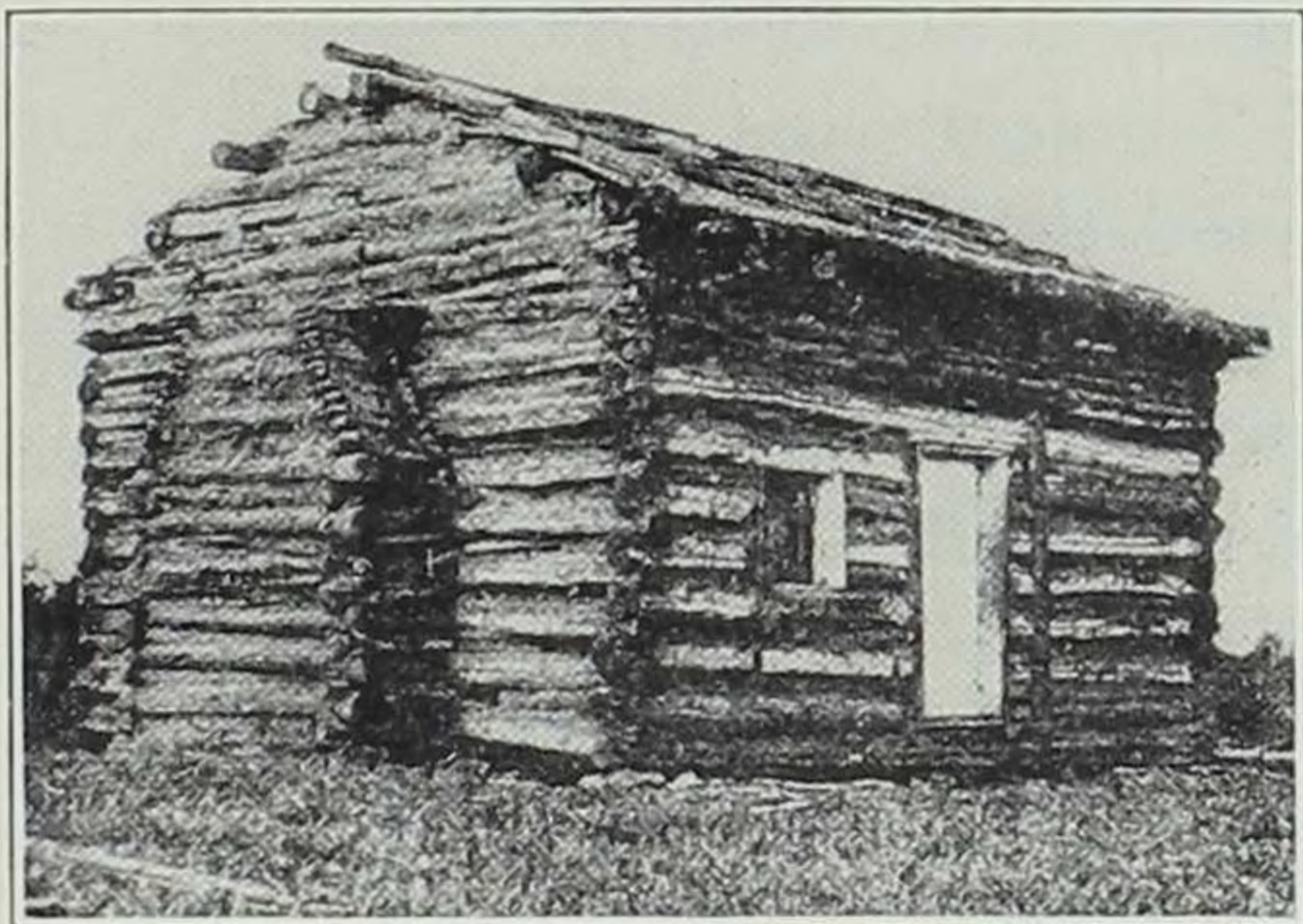


the United States. Lincoln collectors in Iowa have done much to perpetuate the memory of our first martyred President.

This is as it should be for the life of Lincoln can be associated with many phases of Iowa history. Throughout the nation students of state and local history have been eager to link the immortal Lincoln with their own region. Kentucky prides herself as his birthplace. Indiana is equally proud that he spent fourteen years in the Hoosier State before reaching his majority. Illinois proudly claims him as a citizen whose thirty years at New Salem and Springfield groomed him for the presidency. Between 1861 and 1865 the spotlight was focused on Lincoln in the White House: directing the war as commander-in-chief, ably guiding his party through the maze of partisan politics bogging down the war effort, and conducting American diplomacy in a highly successful manner.

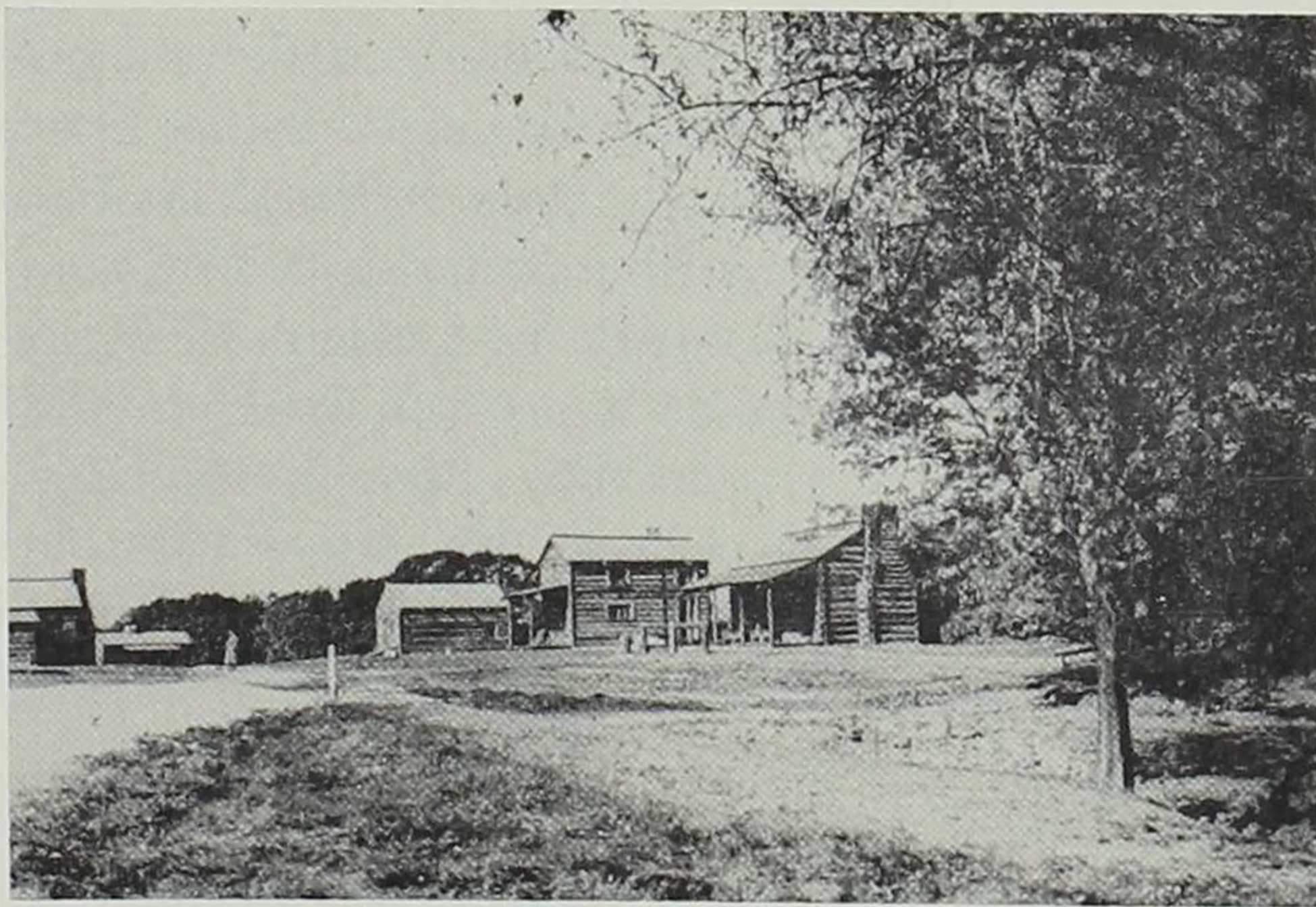
Although the Great Emancipator never lived in Iowa, he did own land in the Hawkeye State, and made decisions of far-reaching effect on its history. He was intimately acquainted with many Iowans, visited the state on several occasions, spoke at Burlington and Council Bluffs, appointed one Iowan to the President's cabinet, and another to the United States Supreme Court. Lincoln's only living son married the daughter of James Harlan of Mount Pleasant. Finally, it should be pointed out that Iowa strongly supported Lincoln





Lincoln's Birthplace

*Lincoln was born near Hodgenville, Kentucky, and spent the first seven years of his life amid such humble surroundings.*



New Salem — Restored

*Popular State Park in Illinois Visited by Thousands of Americans Annually.*



in both presidential elections; and that her military contributions to the Civil War were brave, generous, and wholehearted. When the hand of the assassin laid the Great Emancipator low just one week after Lee's surrender at Appomattox the people of Iowa deeply mourned his loss.

Before discussing more fully Lincoln's intimate associations with Iowa it may be well to point out that the history of the Hawkeye State contains certain interesting parallels with the life of the Great Emancipator. For example, he was born in Kentucky in 1809, one year after the first American fort in Iowa was erected on the site of modern Fort Madison. The Lincoln family moved to Indiana in 1816, the very year that Fort Armstrong and Fort Crawford were erected on the eastern bank of the Mississippi opposite present-day Davenport and McGregor. Lincoln reached his majority and removed to Illinois in 1830, the same year that a group of sturdy lead miners drew up the Miners' Compact at what is now Dubuque. During the Black Hawk War, Lincoln served as captain in the Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and thus witnessed the dramatic events leading to the first permanent cession of Iowa land by the red man.

Lincoln was appointed postmaster at New Salem in May of 1833, a fortnight before permanent white settlement began in the Black Hawk Purchase. While Lincoln was delivering mail out of



his tall hat at New Salem, Postmaster Antoine Le Claire brought his letters to Davenport in his coat-tails.

Lincoln began his eight-year legislative career at Vandalia in 1834, the same year Iowa was attached to Michigan Territory. When the capital of Illinois was moved to Springfield in 1837, Lincoln chose that city as his home, serving as a legislator in the new building designed by John Francis Rague, who two years later designed the Old Stone Capitol at Iowa City. Rague, incidentally, knew Stephen A. Douglas and Mary Todd, and is said to have groomed Abe Lincoln for a dance.

So much for the chronology of Iowa history as it can be woven into the Lincoln story. Let us turn now to the more intimate associations he had with the story of Iowa, discussing him first as a landowner. In 1850 and again in 1855, Congress passed laws granting bounties of land to persons who had rendered services in the armies of the United States. Lincoln, having served in the Black Hawk War, was granted three land warrants. He selected two of these land warrants in Iowa, striking testimony of his high regard for the future prospects of the Hawkeye State. The first Iowa land allotted him was a forty-acre tract in Tama county, fourteen miles northwest of Toledo. It was improved land worth \$10 per acre when Lincoln acquired it, and the taxes were only \$1.60 in 1858. The warrant was issued to him on April 16,



1149861-50

MILITARY BOUNTY LAND ACT OF 28 SEPTEMBER, 1850.

LAND WARRANT,

No. 52076



(Register and Receiver's)

No. 11988

Land Office, Dubuque

July 21 1854

We hereby certify, That the attached Military Bounty Land Warrant, No. 52076, was on this day received at this office, from Abraham Lincoln of Sangamon county, State of Illinois

Wm. H. Hensley Register.

P. Quigley Receiver.

1. Abraham Lincoln

of Sangamon county, State of Illinois

hereby apply to locate and do locate the

North West 1/4 of South West quarter

of Section No. 20 in Township No. 24 N. 10 E. of Range No.

13 West Dubuque containing 40 acres, in satisfaction

tion of the attached Warrant numbered 52076 dated under the Act of 28 September, 1850.

Witness my hand this 21 day of July A. D. 1854

Attest:

Wm. H. Hensley Register.

P. Quigley Receiver.

I request the Patent to be sent to

Abraham Lincoln

by John J. Davis

Scott

Land Office Dubuque

July 21 1854

We hereby certify, That the above location is correct, being in accordance with law and instructions.

P. Quigley Receiver.

Wm. H. Hensley Register.



THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES RECORDS OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.  
Washington, D. C. Military Bounty Land Warrant No. 52076-40-1850.

Three Centimeters

Photo Courtesy Illinois State Historical Library

Military Bounty Land Warrant to Land in Tama County



1852, and the patent granted on June 1, 1855. After Lincoln's death this property was sold by his heirs.

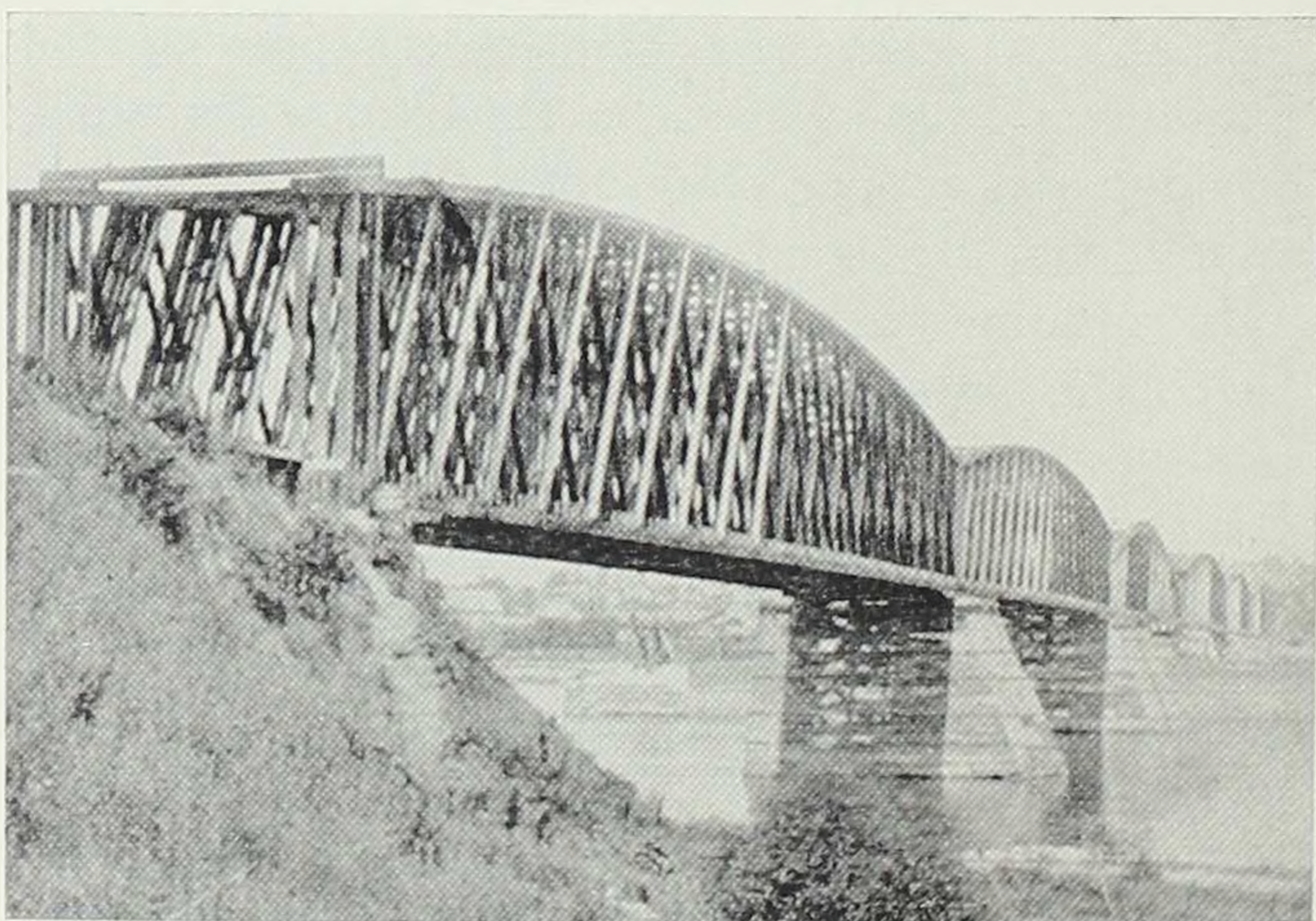
His second Iowa military land warrant was a 120-acre tract in Crawford county, eight miles northwest of Denison. This land was sold by his son, Robert Todd Lincoln, in 1892 for the sum of \$1,300. In 1923, the Denison chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a boulder and copper plate upon this land as a reminder that it was once owned by Lincoln.

In addition to his two military land warrants, Lincoln acquired certain lots and small parcels of land in and near Council Bluffs from Norman B. Judd in 1859. These lots were held by Lincoln at the time of his death, and in 1867 the Lincoln heirs reconveyed them to Mr. Judd.

Next let us turn to Lincoln as an able railroad lawyer, whose services were much in demand by such corporations as the Illinois Central and the Rock Island railroads. One of his most famous railroad cases deals with the wreck of the steamboat *Effie Afton* on the Rock Island bridge in 1856. Although there is no evidence that Lincoln visited Iowa on the occasion of his defense of the bridge company against the steamboat interests in 1857, the importance of his contribution to Iowa history, to railroad history, and, indeed, to the westward movement can scarcely be over-emphasized. The story briefly runs as follows:



On February 22, 1854, the iron horse of the Rock Island railroad reached the Mississippi opposite Davenport — the first railroad to link the Father of Waters with the Atlantic. Anxious to gain easy access to the fertile prairies of Iowa, a bridge was completed between Rock Island and



First Mississippi Bridge — Davenport

Davenport in April, 1856, despite the strong opposition of Secretary of War Jefferson Davis who favored the southern route. On May 6th the steamboat *Effie Afton*, while attempting to go through the Illinois side of the drawbridge, smashed against the pier, caught on fire, and was completely destroyed. The flames also consumed the wooden span east of the drawbridge, putting



the bridge out of commission fully four months. The steamboat owners promptly brought suit against the bridge company and the case was tried in the United States circuit court in Chicago in September, 1857. During the voluminous testimony bitter feelings were exhibited on both sides.

Lincoln himself remained calm throughout the heated trial. According to the original report in the *Chicago Daily Press* of September 24, 1857, Lincoln stated that he expected "to grow earnest as he proceeded but not ill-natured. . . . The last thing that would be pleasing to him, he assured the jury, 'would be to have one of these great channels, extending almost from where it never freezes to where it never thaws, blocked up. But there is a travel from east to west,' he pointed out, 'whose demands are not less important than that of the river. It is growing larger and larger, building up new countries with a rapidity never before seen in the history of the world.' He alluded to the astonishing growth of Illinois, having grown within his memory to a population of a million and a half; to Iowa and the other young and rising communities of the Northwest."

"Railroad travel," Lincoln asserted, "had its rights, just as much as steamboat travel. If the Mississippi had not acquired its advantage in 'priority and legislation'," Lincoln contended, "the railroad could enter into 'free competition' with it and readily surpass it." By way of illustration,



Lincoln pointed to the 12,586 freight cars and 74,179 passengers that had passed over the Rock Island bridge in eleven months. "This shows," Lincoln concluded, "that this bridge must be treated with respect in this court and is not to be kicked about with contempt."

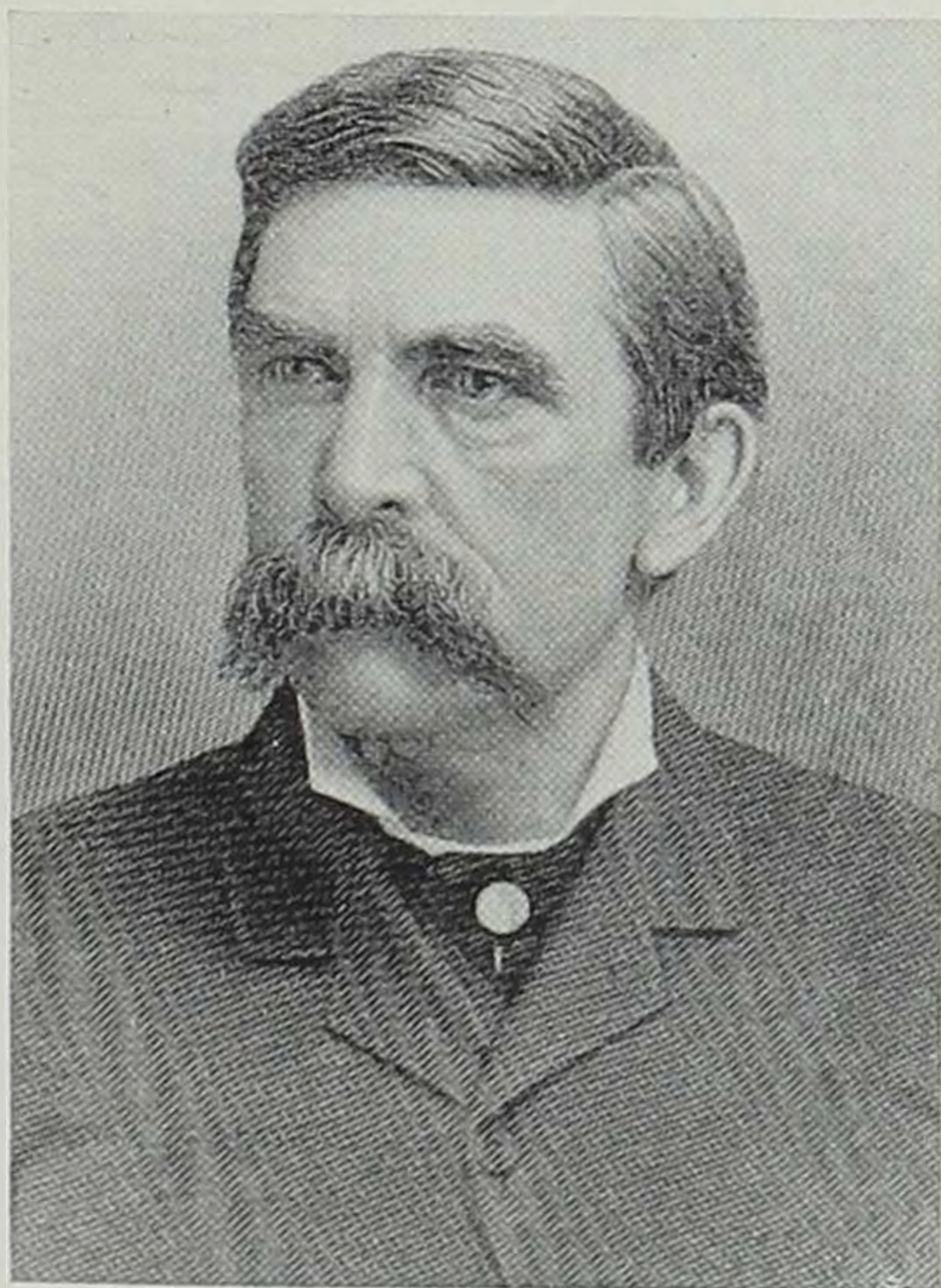
Lincoln made a second important contribution to the history of railroading in Iowa and America when, as President of the United States, he was confronted with the problems of locating the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific.

While stopping at Council Bluffs in 1859, he had met Grenville M. Dodge, who had just completed extensive railroad surveys west of the Missouri for the Rock Island railroad. Lincoln remembered this visit when Congress passed the act providing for a transcontinental railroad and promptly called General Dodge to the White House for a conference. These two conferences with Grenville M. Dodge, more perhaps than anything else, fixed Council Bluffs as the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific. A memorial to Lincoln has been erected on the bluff overlooking the Missouri river, where he and his Iowa friends stood in 1859 and looked westward across Nebraska.

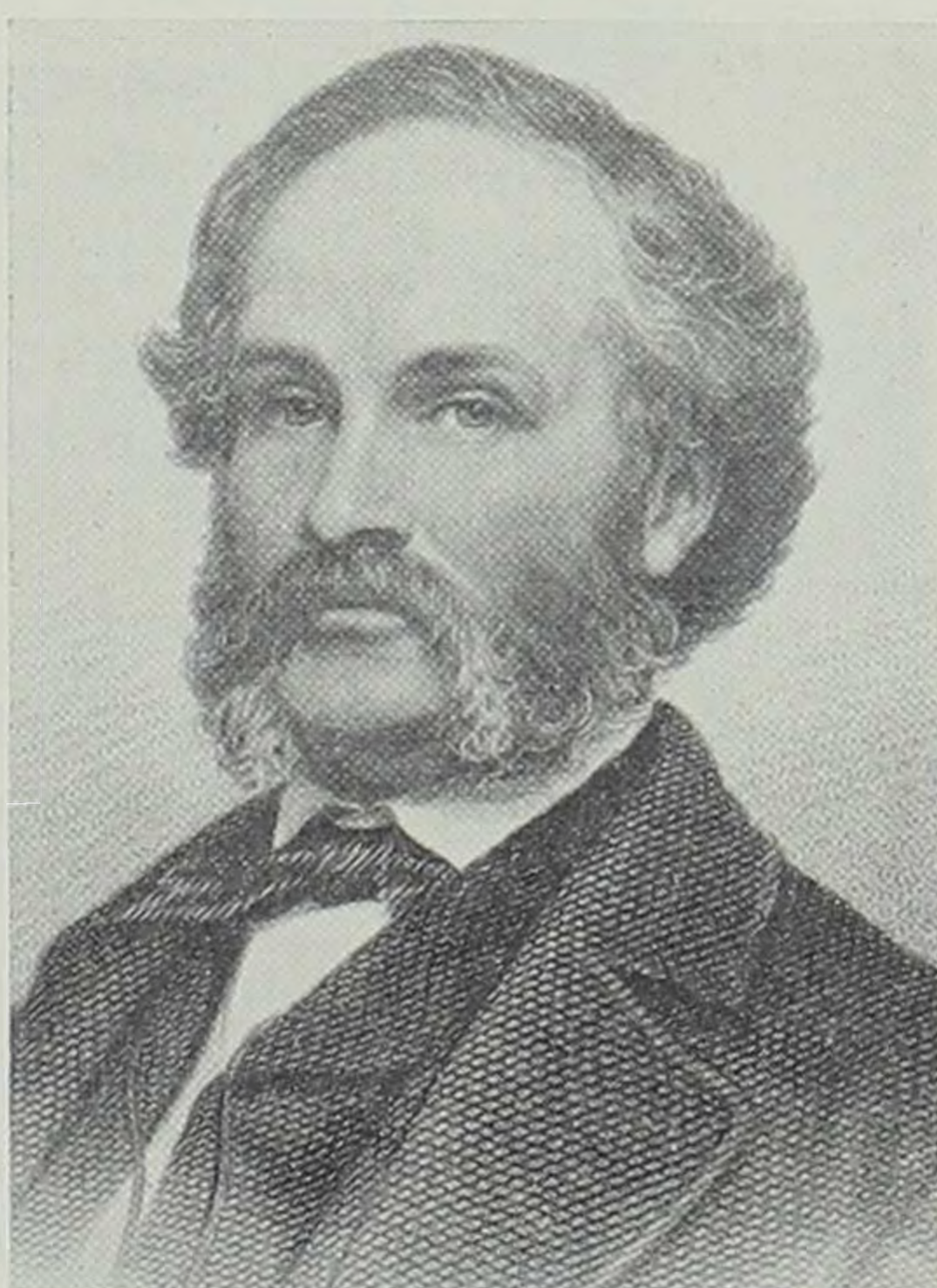
Lincoln also visited Dubuque in the spring of 1859, after presenting a case for the Illinois Central Railroad Company at Galena. He arrived in Dubuque with a party of railroad officials and spent a day and a night at the Julien House.



The remainder of Lincoln's intimate associations with Iowa are concerned with his political and presidential years. He was elected a United States representative the same year Iowa achieved statehood, but served only one term. During the 1850's, he joined the Republican party in Illinois.



Grenville M. Dodge



*State Historical Society Photos*  
James W. Grimes

This threw him into close contact with James W. Grimes — the father of the Republican party in Iowa — who had been elected Whig Governor of the Hawkeye State in 1854. Both men campaigned for election to the United States Senate in 1858: Grimes winning the coveted office in Iowa while Lincoln lost it to Douglas in Illinois.



During the heat of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates, Abraham Lincoln crossed the Mississippi to deliver an address in Burlington. Clark Dunham, editor of the Burlington *Hawk-Eye* and an ardent Lincoln admirer, made the following comment on Lincoln's oration of October 9th:

"Grimes' Hall was filled to its full capacity. . . . So great is the sympathy felt here in the spirited canvass in Illinois, and so high is the opinion entertained of the ability of Mr. Lincoln as a speaker that a very short notice brought together from twelve to fifteen hundred ladies and gentlemen.

"High, however, as was the public expectation, and much as was anticipated, he, in his address of two hours, fully came up to the standard that had been erected. It was a logical discourse, replete with sound arguments, clear, concise and vigorous, earnest, impassioned and eloquent. Those who heard recognized in him a man fully able to cope with the little giant anywhere, and altogether worthy to succeed him.

"We regret exceedingly that it is not in our power to report his speech in full this morning. We know that we could have rendered no more acceptable service to our readers. But it is not in our power.

"Mr. Lincoln appeared Saturday evening fresh and vigorous, there was nothing in his voice, manner or appearance to show the arduous labors of



the last two months — nothing to show that immense labors of the canvass had worn upon him in the least. In this respect he has altogether the

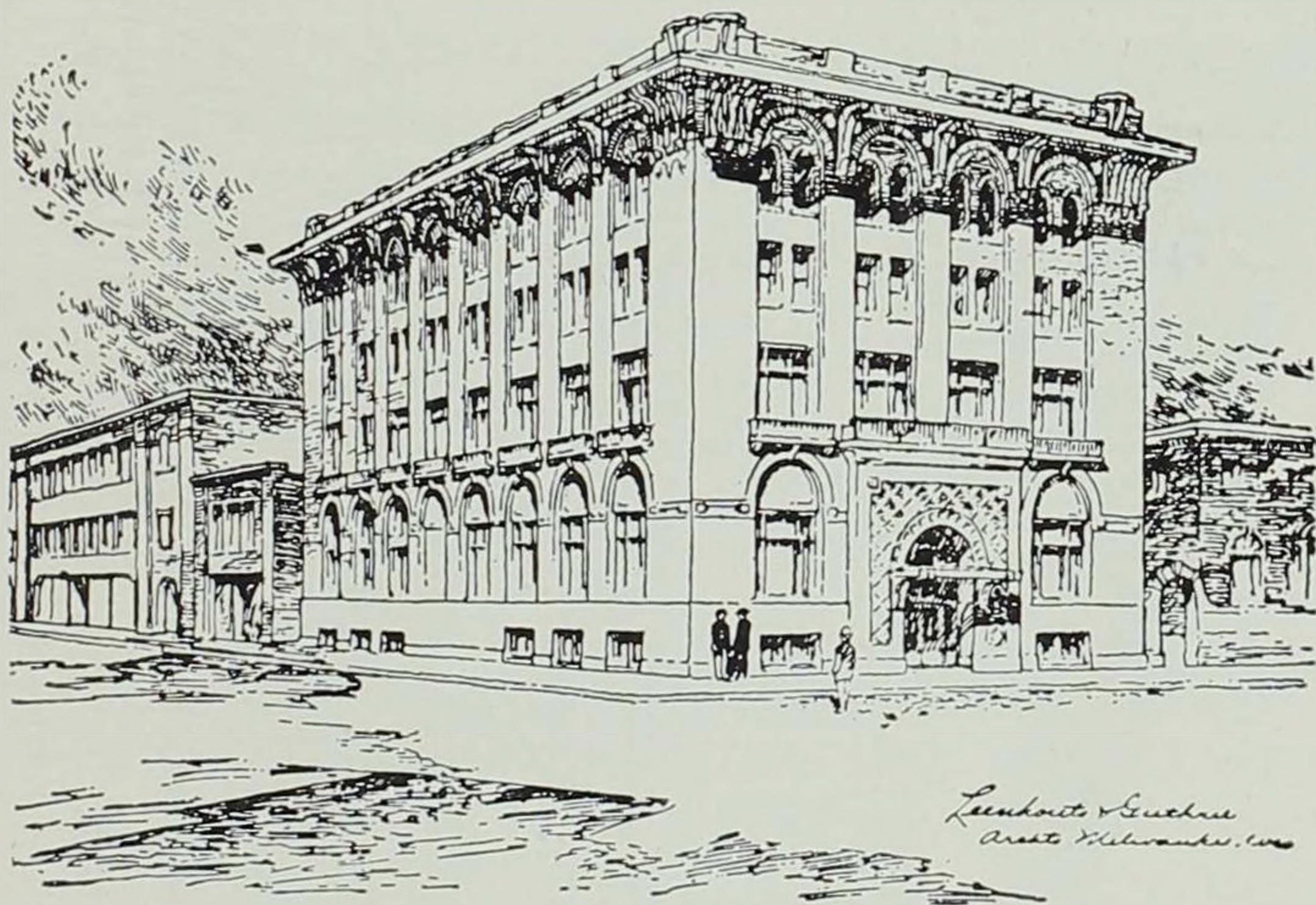


Photo Courtesy Burlington Public Library

GRIMES HALL — WHERE LINCOLN SPOKE IN 1858

advantage of Douglas, whose voice is cracked and husky, temper soured and general appearance denoting exhaustion."

The only other speech that Lincoln is known to have made in Iowa was at Council Bluffs on the occasion of his flying trip out west in the summer of 1859. It attracted a good crowd, even though it was unscheduled, and it elicited conflicting reactions from the Republican and Democratic editors of Council Bluffs. The friendly *Nonpareil* praised



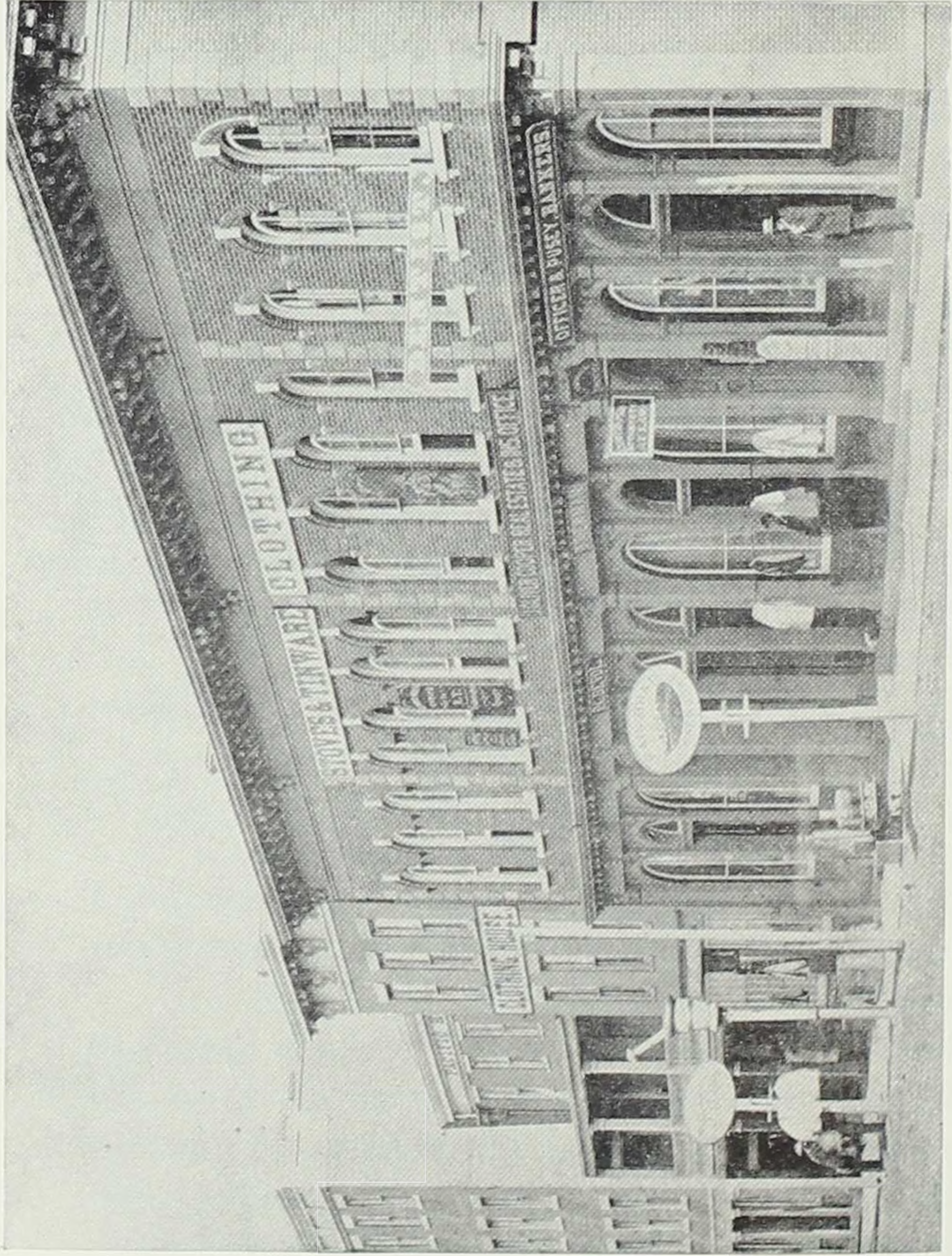


Photo Courtesy Council Bluffs Public Library

LINCOLN STOPPED AT PACIFIC HOUSE AT COUNCIL BLUFFS — 1859

(Small 3-story building on extreme left)



his "masterly and unanswerable speech" and the "dexterity with which he applied the political scalpel to the Democratic carcass." The *Weekly Bugle* spoke in a derisive vein of Lincoln's effort, but admitted that his defeat by Senator Douglas had "magnified him into quite a lion" at Council Bluffs. Lincoln stayed at the Pacific House on this occasion and made his speech in Concert Hall.

Because of his reputation as an orator and party leader, Lincoln had other invitations to speak in Iowa, but unfortunately was forced to decline them. As early as 1844 he had been invited to appear at Burlington but was unable to come.

In the summer of 1856 Governor James W. Grimes desired him to be present at a Republican rally in Burlington, but Lincoln wrote he could not spare the time and, in any case, was "superstitious about calling in foreign help from neighboring states on the eve of an election." However, if the opposition had imported a "foreigner," Lincoln stated he had "no objection to drive a nail in his track." An invitation to "strike hands with the Fremonters of Iowa" at Muscatine in September of 1856 was declined because of the hard work still remaining before the Republicans in Illinois.

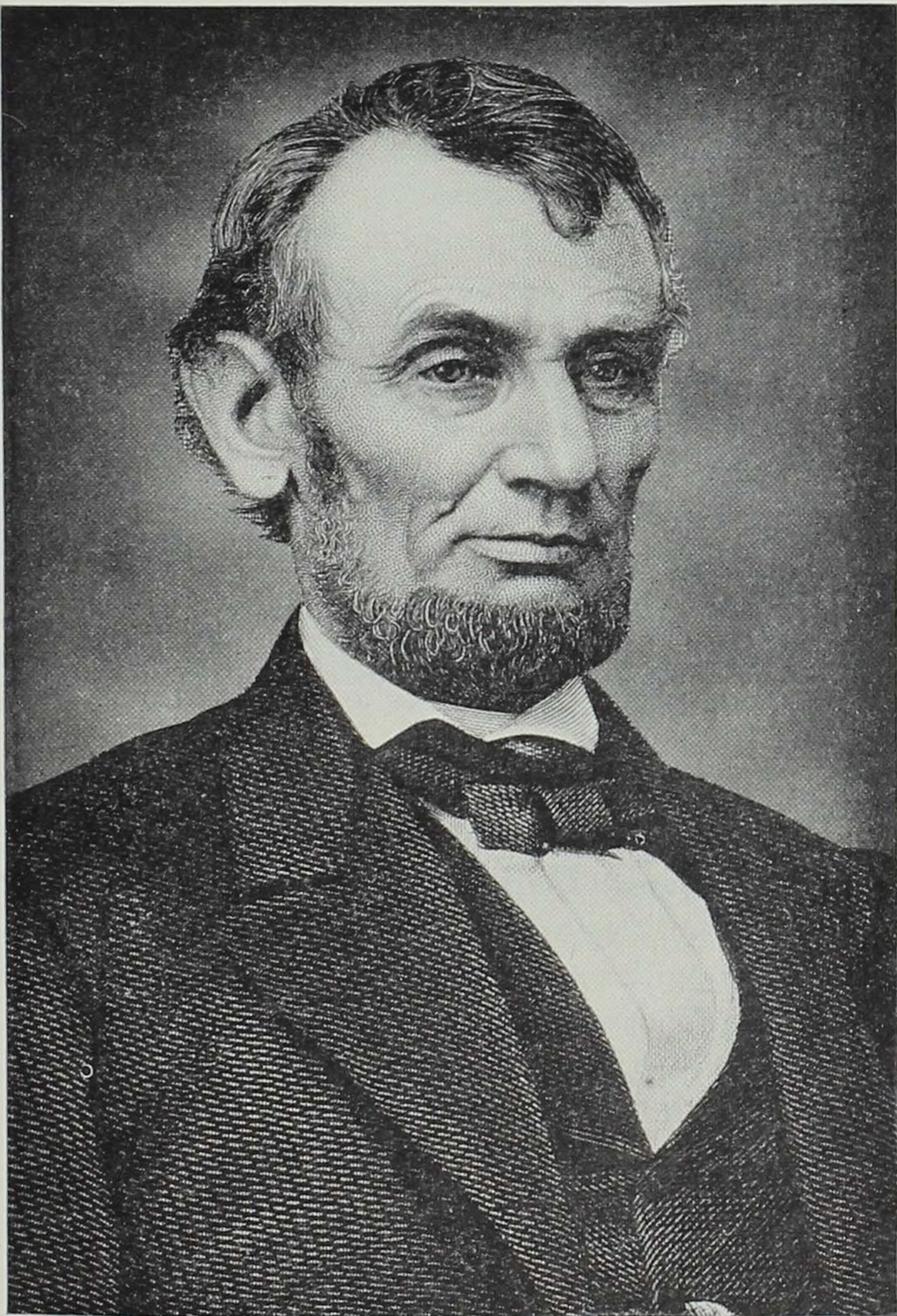
In August of 1857 Lincoln wrote Governor Grimes that he was "altogether too poor" to make the trip to Iowa from Chicago, where he was busily engaged as defense attorney for the Rock Island Bridge Company. To Hawkins Taylor of



Keokuk he wrote in 1859: "It is bad to be poor. . . . I shall go to the wall for bread and meat if I neglect my business this year as well as last. . . . It would please me to see the city and good people of Keokuk, but for this year it is little less than an impossibility. . . . I do hope you will have no serious troubles in Iowa. What thinks Grimes about it? I have not known him to be mistaken about an election in Iowa." Two days after Lincoln wrote the above letter John A. Kasson urged him to visit the Iowa state fair at Oskaloosa, but the busy Illinois lawyer had gone to Ohio.

In the harrowing Civil War days that followed, Iowa gave unwavering support to Abraham Lincoln. By 1860 the Hawkeye State was strongly Republican in politics, having elected Samuel J. Kirkwood Governor and having dispatched James Harlan to the United States Senate. The State was equally strong in supporting Lincoln in the four-cornered presidential campaign of 1860 — Lincoln received 70,409 out of a total of 128,331 votes cast, or 54.8 per cent of the total. In the election of 1864, despite the war-weariness of a home front numbed by heavy losses, Iowans gave him even stronger support — 89,075 of the 138,671 votes cast were for Lincoln — or 64.2 per cent. Perhaps the most striking endorsement of Lincoln came from Iowa soldiers who cast 15,178 votes for "Honest Abe" compared with 1,364 votes for General George McClellan. Surely no





ABRAHAM LINCOLN:  
President of the United States

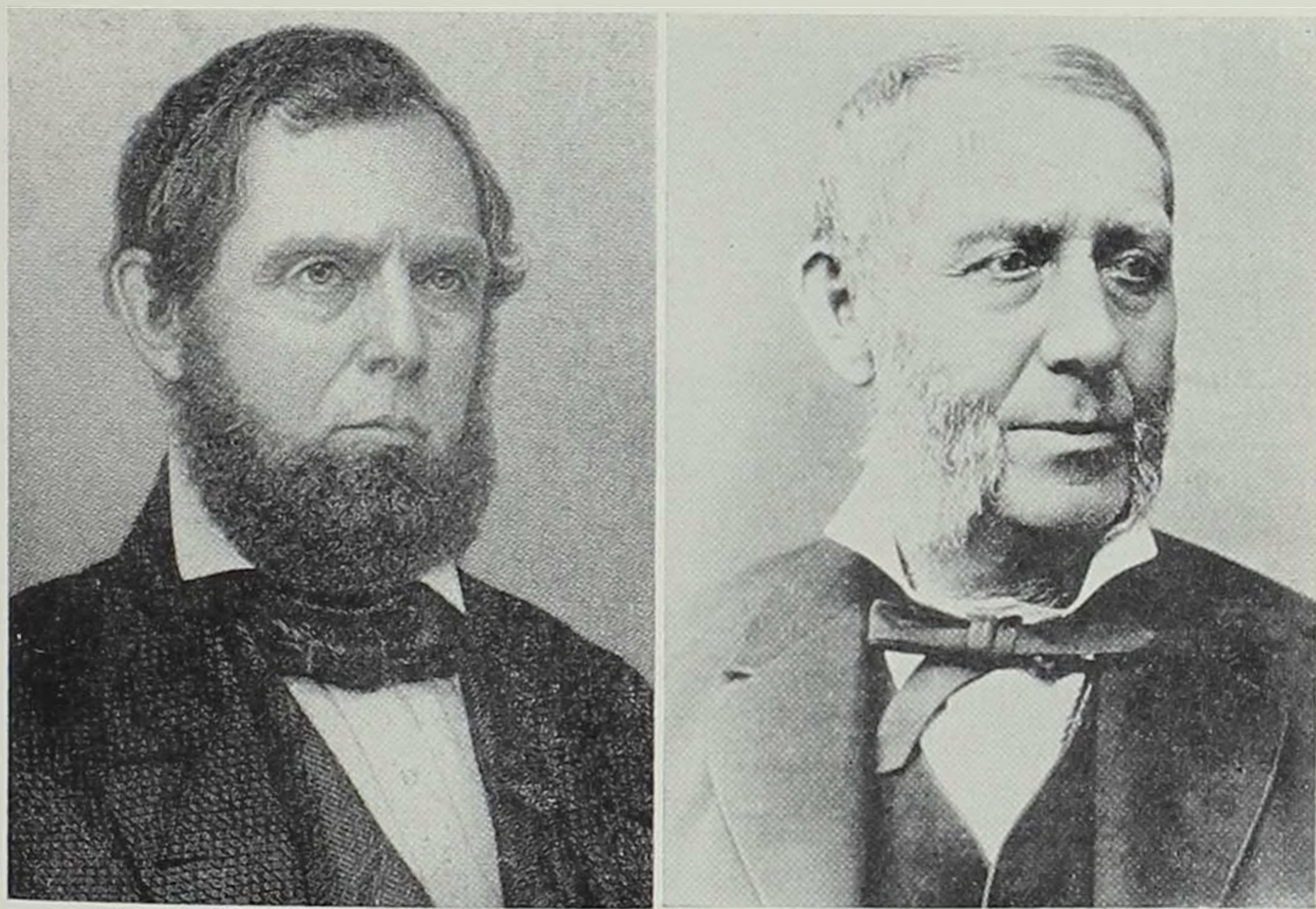


commander-in-chief has ever received a warmer support from his fighting forces than did Abraham Lincoln in this eleven to one vote of confidence by Iowa soldiers during the campaign of 1864.

And it was not merely at the ballot box that Iowa supported Lincoln. Fully 78,059 men out of a population of 674,913 donned the Federal blue to "Preserve the Union." They represented half of the able-bodied men in Iowa. It was a greater number of soldiers than Washington had commanded in his armies during the American Revolution. It represented a higher percentage of the total population than in World War I or World War II. The contribution is even more significant since mechanized agriculture was in its infancy.

If Iowans admired and supported Lincoln, the Great Emancipator was equally mindful of the fine citizens dwelling in the Hawkeye State. He appointed James Harlan of Mount Pleasant as his Secretary of the Interior and subsequently Samuel Freeman Miller of Keokuk to the United States Supreme Court. He invited Annie Turner Wittenmyer of Keokuk to the White House, and together they laid the foundations of the Diet Kitchens that saved many a soldier's life during the Civil War. His only surviving son, Robert Todd Lincoln, married the daughter of James Harlan, and the Harlan-Lincoln Home at Mount Pleasant (where Robert T. and Mary Harlan Lincoln lived) is one of Iowa's prized possessions.





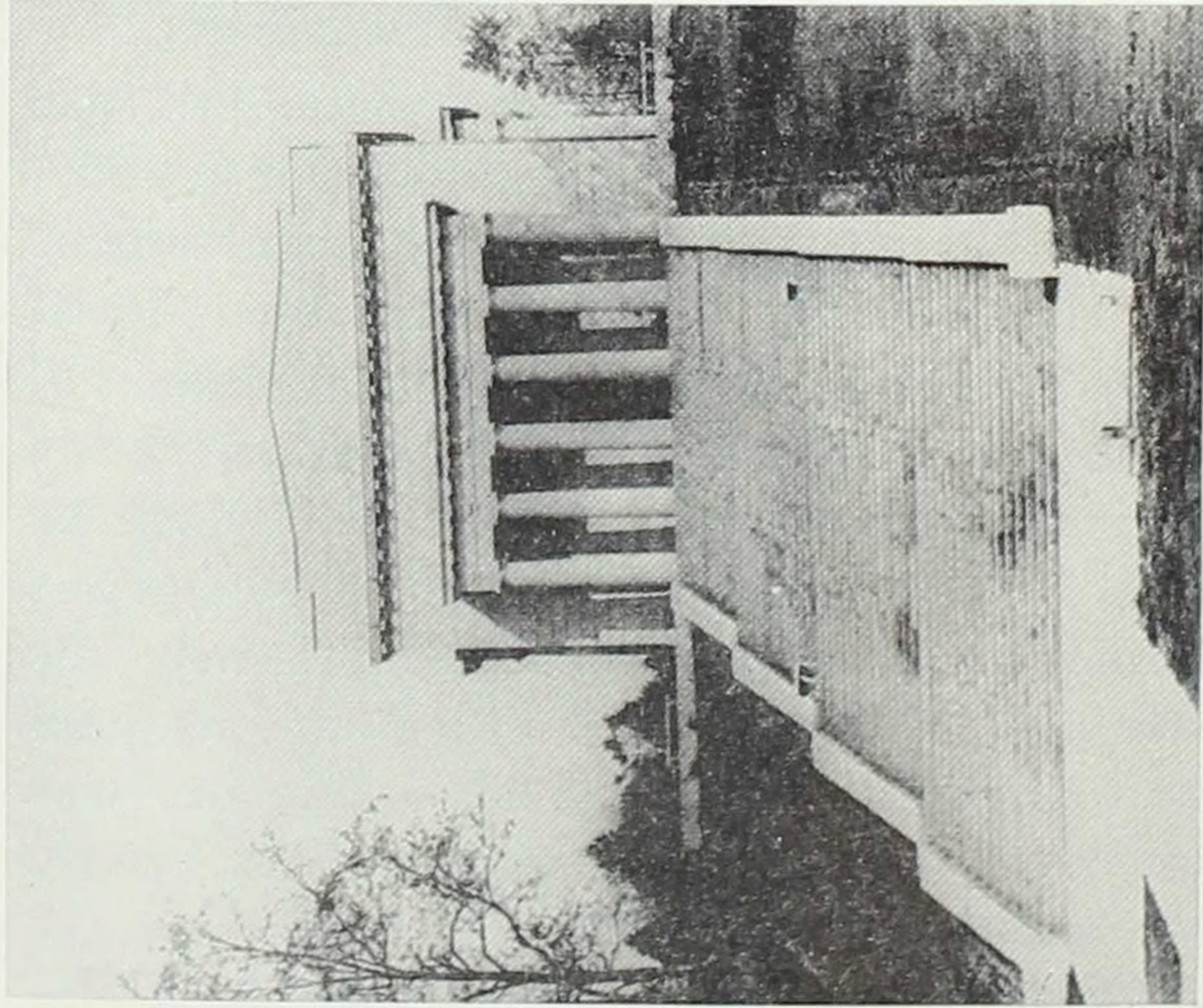
James Harlan

*State Historical Society Photos*  
Samuel J. Kirkwood

When the nation and the world honored the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birth in 1909, the eyes of Iowa were naturally focused on the ceremonies at Hodgenville, Kentucky, where President Theodore Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the beautiful marble structure that houses the log cabin in which Lincoln was born and where he lived the first two years of his life. The exercises at Springfield, Illinois, shared honors with the Hodgenville ceremonies, for three nations paid tribute to Lincoln at Springfield — England was represented by Ambassador James Bryce, France by her Ambassador, Jules Jusserand, and the United States by William Jennings Bryan of Ne-

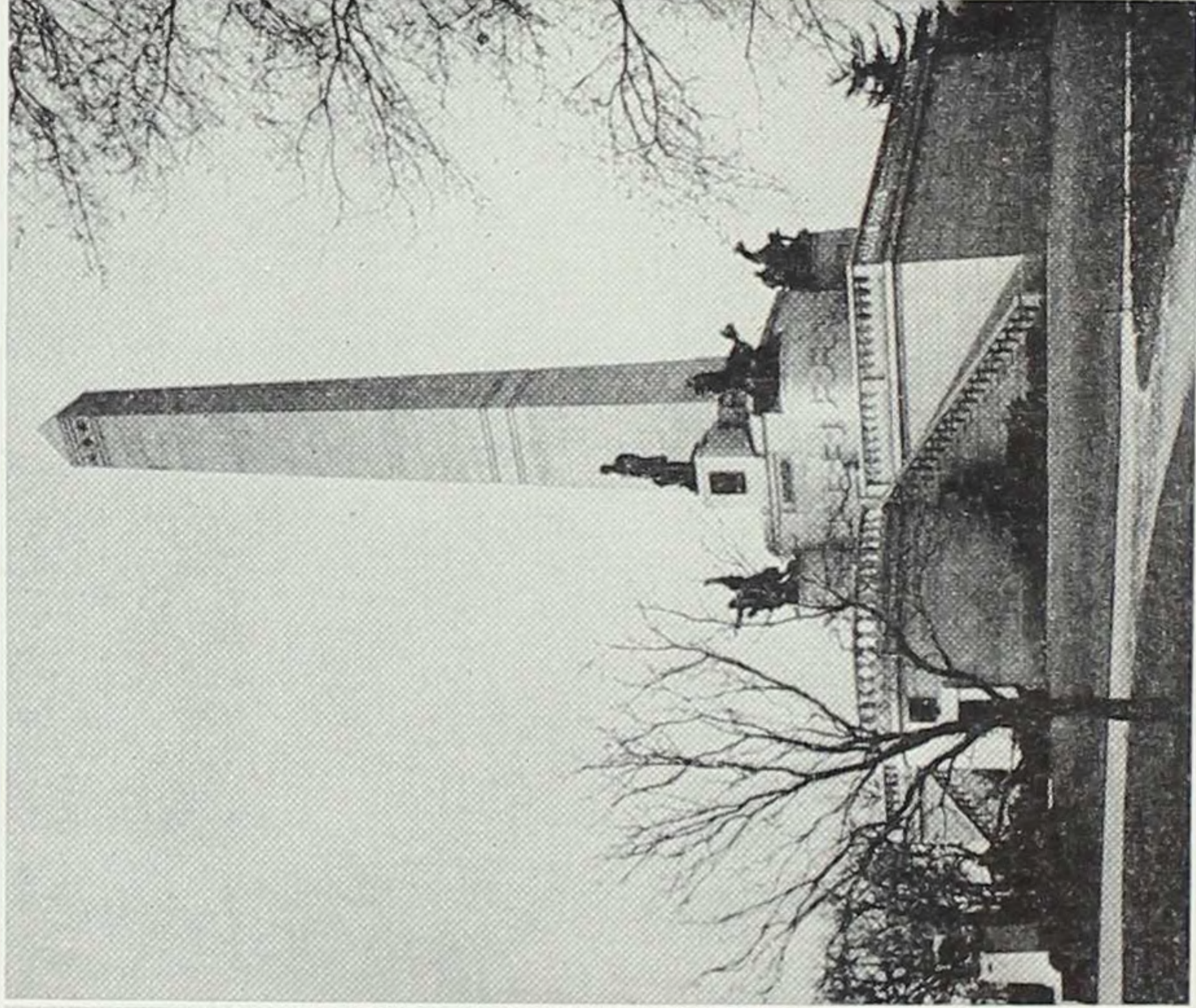


MONUMENTS TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN



Birthplace at Hodgenville

*"I was born February 12, 1809 . . . a mile, or a mile and a half, from where Hodgen's mill now is."*



Tomb at Springfield

*"There lies the most perfect ruler of men that ever lived."*  
Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton

Photos Courtesy Illinois State Historical Library



braska and Senator Jonathan P. Dolliver of Iowa. Dolliver was chosen to lay the American wreath at Lincoln's feet. Before 850 members of the Lincoln Centennial Association the silver-tongued orator from Iowa spoke on "Our Heroic Age," referring to that time when Lincoln and the statesmen who stood by his side fought "the way of the nation" through "chaos and civil strife" and created a true United States.

Since 1909 the State of Iowa has faithfully cherished the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. It is well that we do so, for in the life of the "Great Emancipator" we have mirrored those qualities which have made Iowa and America great. Lincoln the railsplitter; Lincoln the flatboatman; Lincoln the surveyor; Lincoln the Indian fighter; Lincoln the storekeeper and postmaster; Lincoln the circuit-riding country lawyer and stump-speaking prairie politician — truly here was a man with experiences that could be understood by thousands of Iowa pioneers engaged in transforming a wilderness into the richest agricultural State in the Union.

On February 12, 1909, "Ding" Darling drew a Lincoln cartoon entitled "The Guiding Star of the Republic." In it, "Ding" showed Uncle Sam, backed by Columbia, standing at the pilot wheel guiding the "Ship of State" toward the ever-beckoning profile of Lincoln, blazing resplendently in the starry firmament. Today that "Guiding Star" still shines brightly in the minds of Iowans.



## Words of Lincoln

The following "Words of Lincoln" — written or spoken — have been compiled by Harry J. Lytle as among the outstanding gems of thought expressed by the Great Emancipator. An authority on Lincoln lore, Mr. Lytle has selected these for Iowans — young and old — and they are reprinted herewith for the pleasure and profit of all citizens. — THE EDITOR.

Discourage litigation. Persuade your neighbors to compromise whenever you can. Point out to them how the nominal winner is often a real loser — in fees, expenses, and waste of time. As a peacemaker the lawyer has a superior opportunity of being a good man. There will still be business enough.

*From notes used in a law lecture.*

*July 1, 1850*

What I do say is, that no man is good enough to govern another man without the other's consent. I say this is the leading principle — the sheet anchor of American republicanism. . . . Our republican robe is soiled and trailed in the dust. Let us repurify it. Let us turn and wash it white in the spirit, if not the blood, of the Revolution. Let us turn slavery from its claim of 'moral right' back upon its existing legal rights and its arguments of 'necessity.' Let us return it to the position our fathers gave it; and there let it rest in peace. Let us re-adopt the Declaration of Independence, and with it the practices and policy which harmonize



with it. Let North and South — let all Americans — let all lovers of liberty everywhere join in the great and good work. If we do this, we shall not only have saved the Union, but we shall have so saved it as to make and to keep it forever worthy of the saving. We shall have so saved it, that the succeeding millions of free happy people, the world over, shall rise up and call us blessed to the latest generation.

*Reply to Douglas — Peoria.*

*Oct. 16, 1854*

Ambition has been ascribed to me. God knows how sincerely I prayed from the first that this field of ambition might not be opened. I claim no insensibility to political honors; but today could the Missouri restrictions be restored, and the whole slavery question replaced on the old ground of "toleration" by necessity where it exists, with unyielding hostility to the spread of it, on principle, I would, in consideration, gladly agree, that Judge Douglas should never be out, and I never in, an office, so long as we both or either, live.

*Springfield campaign speech.*

*Oct. 30, 1858*

As each man has one mouth to be fed, and one pair of hands to furnish food, it was probably intended that that particular pair of hands should feed that particular mouth — that each head is the natural guardian, director and protector of the hands and mouth inseparably connected with it; and that being so, every head should be cultivated and im-



proved, by whatever will add to its capacity for performing its charge. In one word, free labor insists on universal education.

*Wisconsin Agricultural speech.*

*Sept. 30, 1859*

Of course, when I came of age I did not know much. Still, somehow, I could read, write, and cipher to the rule of three, but that was all. I have not been to school since. The little advance I now have upon this store of education, I have picked up from time to time under the pressure of necessity.

*From Autobiography.*

*Dec. 1, 1859*

Dear Mary:

With pleasure I write my name in your album. Ere long some younger man will be more happy to confer his name upon you. Don't allow it, Mary, until fully assured that he is worthy of the happiness.

*Autograph Album.*

*Dec. 7, 1859*

Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it.

*Address at Cooper Union.*

*Feb. 27, 1860*

My friends: No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one



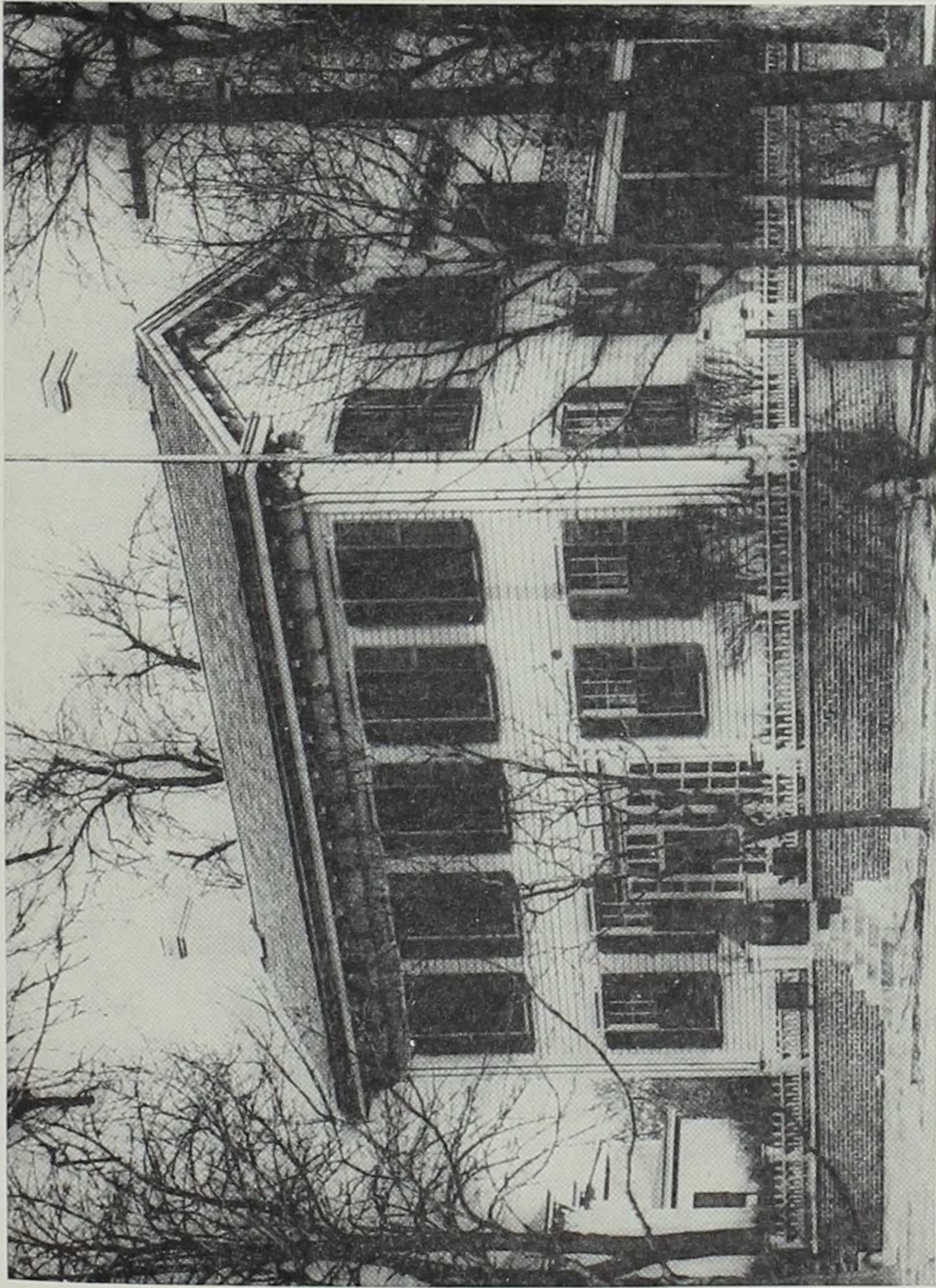


Photo Courtesy Illinois State Historical Library

Lincoln's Home at Springfield, Illinois

*"Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man." February 11, 1861*



is buried. I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail. Trusting in Him who can go with me, and remain with you, and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

*Farewell address — Springfield.*

*Feb. 11, 1861*

I take the official oath today with no mental reservations, and with no purpose to construe the Constitution of laws by any hypercritical rules. . . . I hold that, in contemplation of universal law and of the Constitution, the Union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. It is safe to assert that no government proper ever had a provision in its organic law for its own termination. . . .

Physically speaking, we cannot separate. We cannot remove our respective sections from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. . . .

The chief magistrate derives all his authority from the people, and they have conferred none upon him to fix terms for the separation of the states. . . . If the Almighty Ruler of Nations, with His eternal



truth and justice, be on your side of the North, or on yours of the South, that truth and that justice will surely prevail by the judgment of this great tribunal of the American people. . . .

I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle-field and patriot grave to every living heart and hearth-stone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

*First Inaugural — Washington.*

*March 4, 1861*

My dear Sir:—

The lady bearer of this says that she has two sons who want to work. Set them at it if possible. Wanting to work is so rare a want that it should be encouraged.

*Letter to Major Ramsey.*

*Oct. 17, 1861*

Your dispatches complaining that you are not properly sustained, while they do not offend me, do pain me very much.

*Letter to Gen. McClellan.*

*April 9, 1862*

Your dispatches of today received. God bless you, and all with you. Destroy the rebel army if possible.

*Telegram to Gen. McClellan.*

*Sept. 15, 1862*



The will of God prevails. In great contests each party claims to act in accordance with the will of God. Both may be, and one must be wrong. God cannot be for and against the same thing at the same time. In the present civil war it is quite possible that God's purpose is something different from the purpose of either party; and yet the human instrumentalities, working just as they do, are of the best adaptation to effect His purpose. I am almost ready to say that this is probably true; that God wills this contest, and wills that it shall not end yet. By His mere great power on the minds of the now contestants, He could have either saved or destroyed the Union without a human contest. Yet the contest began and, having begun, He could give the final victory to either side any day, yet the contest proceeds.

*Written Meditation.*

*Sept. 30, 1862*

I have just read your dispatch about sore tongued and fatigued horses. Will you pardon me for asking what the horses of your army have done since the battle of Antietam that fatigues anything.

*Telegram to Gen. McClellan.*

*Oct. 24, 1862*

Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance or insignificance can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the



latest generation. We say we are for the Union. . . . The world knows we do know how to save it. We — even we here — hold the power and bear the responsibility. In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom for the free — honorable alike in what we give and what we preserve. We shall nobly save or meanly lose the last, best hope on earth. Other means may succeed; this could not fail. The way is plain, peaceful, generous, just — a way which, if followed, the world will forever applaud, and God must forever bless.

*Second Annual Message to Congress.* Dec. 1, 1862

If you are besieged how do you dispatch me?  
Why did you not leave before being besieged?

*Telegram to Gen. Daniel Tyler.* June 14, 1863

The signs look better. The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the sea. . . . Peace does not appear so distant as it did. I hope it will come soon, and come to stay; and so come as to be worth the keeping in all future time. . . . Still, let us not be over-sanguine of a speedy final triumph. Let us be quite sober. Let us diligently apply the means, never doubting that a just God, in his own good time, will give us the rightful result.

*From a political letter.* Aug. 26, 1863

My dear Sir:—

Hadn't we better spank this drummer boy and send him back to Leavenworth?

*Letter to Secretary of War Stanton.* (No Date)



The year that is drawing to a close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. . . . Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense, have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. . . . No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gift of the Most High God, who, dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. . . . It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do therefore . . . set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.

*Thanksgiving Proclamation.*

*Oct. 3, 1863*

Dear Sir:—

I personally wish Jacob Freese, of New Jersey, to be appointed colonel for a colored regiment, and this regardless of whether he can tell the exact shade of Julius Caesar's hair.

*Letter to Secretary Stanton.*

*Nov. 11, 1863*



Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate — we cannot consecrate — we cannot hallow — this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us — that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government



of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

*Gettysburg Address.*

*Nov. 19, 1863*

I have seen your dispatch expressing your unwillingness to break your hold where you are. Neither am I willing. Hold on with a bull-dog grip, and chew and choke as much as possible.

*Telegram to General Grant.*

*Aug. 17, 1864*

The purposes of the Almighty are perfect, and must prevail, though we erring mortals may fail to accurately perceive them in advance. We hoped for a happy termination of this terrible war long before this; but God knows best, and has ruled otherwise.

*Letter to Mrs. Eliza P. Gurney.*

*Sept. 24, 1864*

Dear Madam: I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant-General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must



be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

*Letter to Mrs. Bixby.*

*Nov. 21, 1864*

I am profitably engaged in reading the Bible. Take all of this book upon reason that you can and the balance on faith, and you will live and die a better man.

*Letter to Joshua F. Speed.*

*(No Date)*

Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the *cause* of the conflict might cease with or even before the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces, but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. . . .

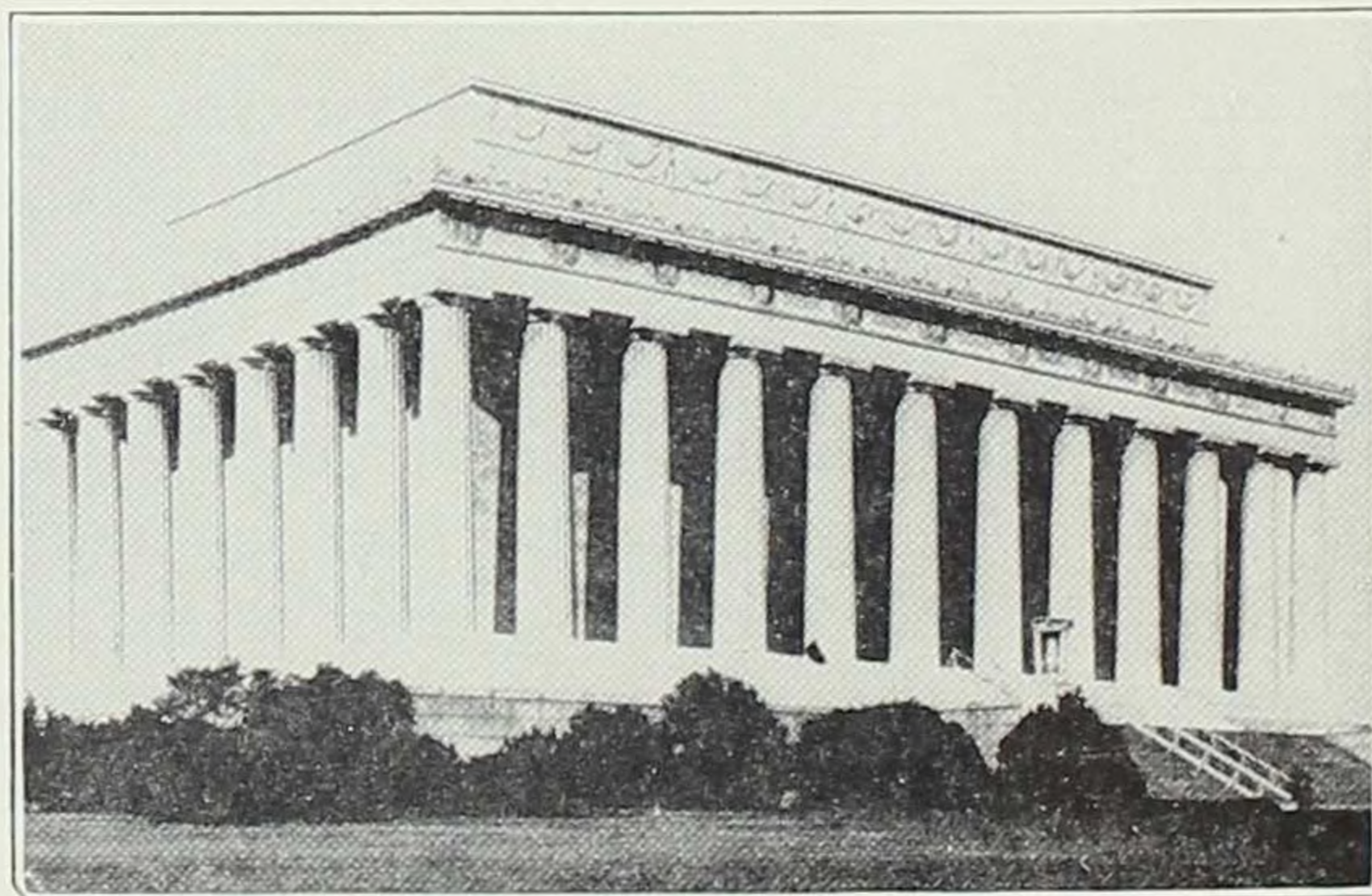
With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow



and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

*Second Inaugural Address.*

*March 4, 1865*



Lincoln Memorial, Washington



## Lincoln Admirers

Selected and arranged by HARRY J. LYTLE.

If you wish to know the difference between an orator and an elocutionist — between what is felt and what is said — between what the heart and brain can do together, and what the brain can do alone — read Lincoln's wondrous speech at Gettysburg, and then the oration of Edward Everett. The speech of Lincoln will never be forgotten. It will live until languages are dead and lips are dust. The oration of Everett will never be read.

The elocutionists believe in the virtue of voice, the sublimity of syntax, the majesty of long sentences, and the genius of gesture. The orator loves the real, the simple, the natural. He places the thought above all. He knows the greatest ideas should be expressed in the shortest words — that the greatest statues need the least drapery.

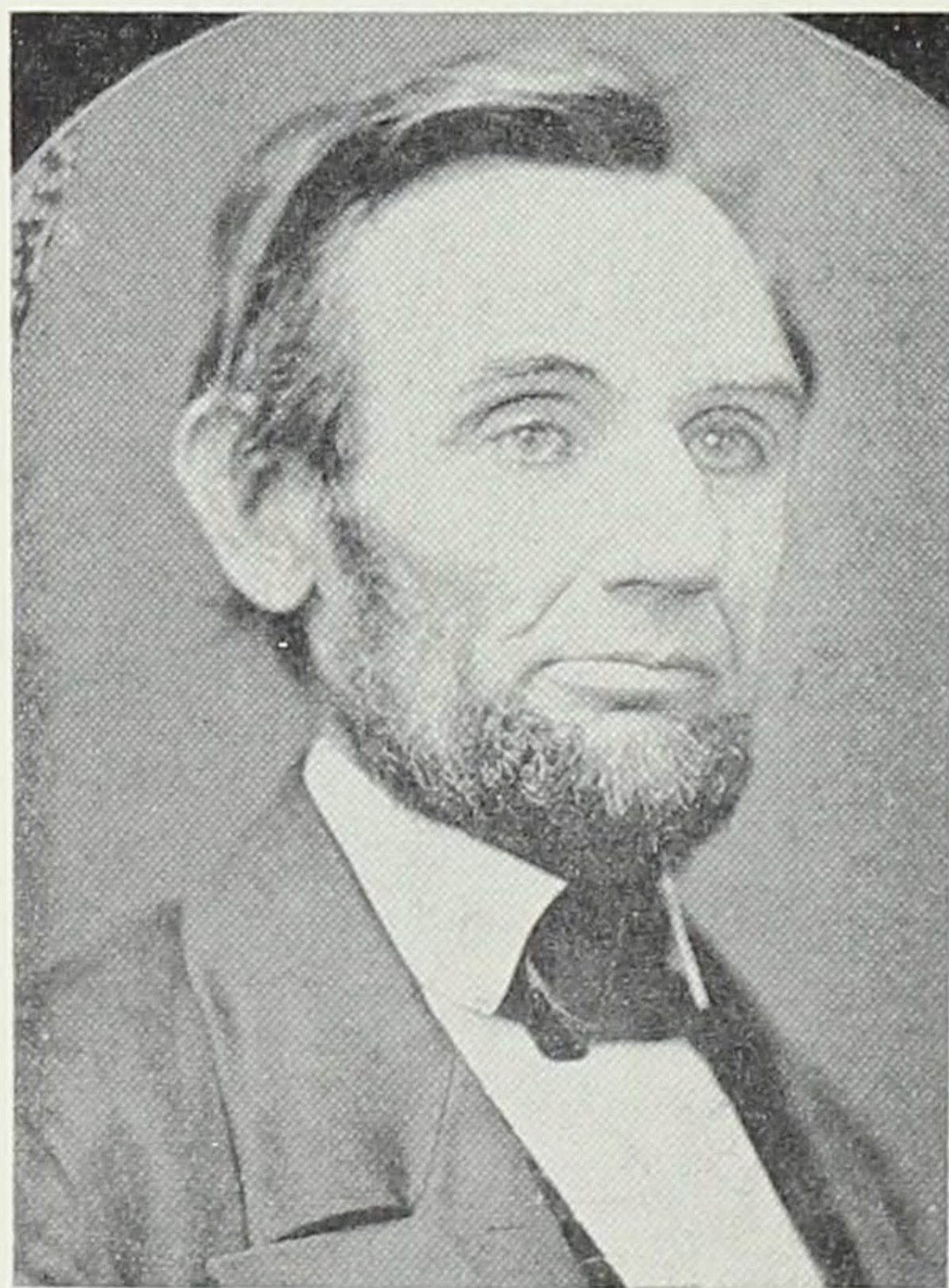
*Col. Ingersoll's ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1907).*

There is no new thing to be said of Lincoln. There is no new thing to be said of the mountains, or of the sea, or of the stars. The years go their way, but the same old mountains lift their granite shoulders above the drifting clouds; the same mysterious sea beats upon the shore; and the same silent stars keep holy vigil above a tired world.

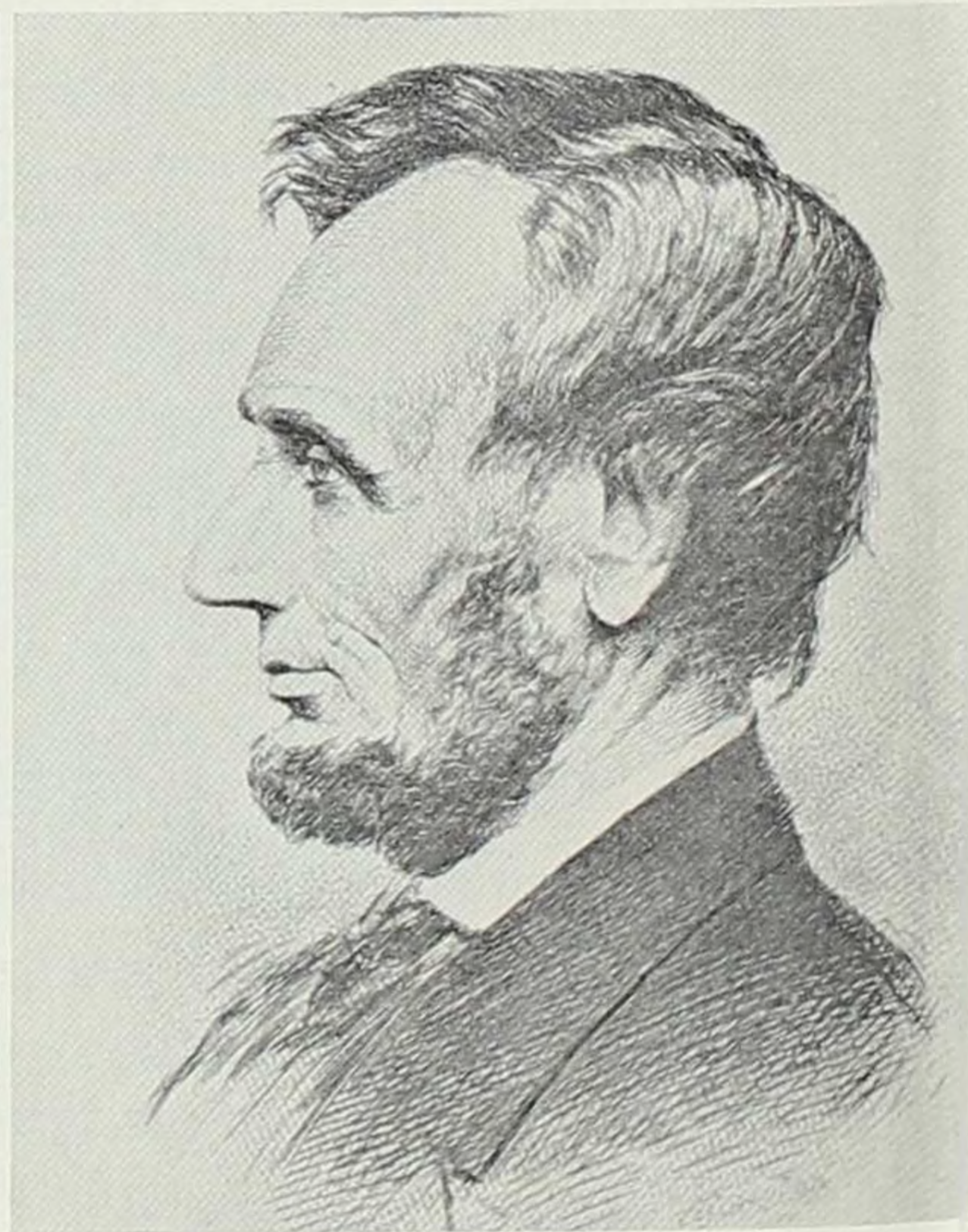


But to mountains and sea and stars men turn forever in unwearied homage. And thus with Lincoln. For he was a mountain in grandeur of soul, he was sea in deep undervoice of mystic loneliness, he was star in steadfast purity of purpose and of service. And he abides.

*Homer Hoch in House of Representatives. Feb. 12, 1923*



F. McNulty, Springfield  
Abraham Lincoln



A. Lincoln

The folk-lore Lincoln, the maker of stories, the stalking and elusive Lincoln is a challenge for any artist. He has enough outline and lights and shadows and changing tints to call out portraits of him



in his Illinois backgrounds and settings — even had he never been elected President.

*Sandburg's THE PRAIRIE YEARS (1926).*

A touch of rusticity, contributed by his birth and environment, is to be found in much of his written work, but it enriched his personality and deepened his sympathy and imagination. But when his mind was moved to its highest points of feeling and sincerity, his expression took on a purity, an elegance, and an insight, which gave it the qualities of literature.

*Robinson's ABRAHAM LINCOLN AS A MAN OF LETTERS*

Gladstone left not a single piece of writing that has been given a place in the world's literature. . . . "Who ever reads Gladstone's speeches?" Lincoln's letter to Mrs. Bixby, on the other hand, may be found on the walls of one of the colleges of Gladstone's own Oxford, placed there as a specimen of the purest English prose, and English schoolboys commit to memory Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" as the finest speech of its kind ever written in the English language.

*Dodge's ABRAHAM LINCOLN, MASTER OF WORDS (1924).*

There is no man in the country so wise, so gentle and so firm. I believe the hand of God placed him where he is.

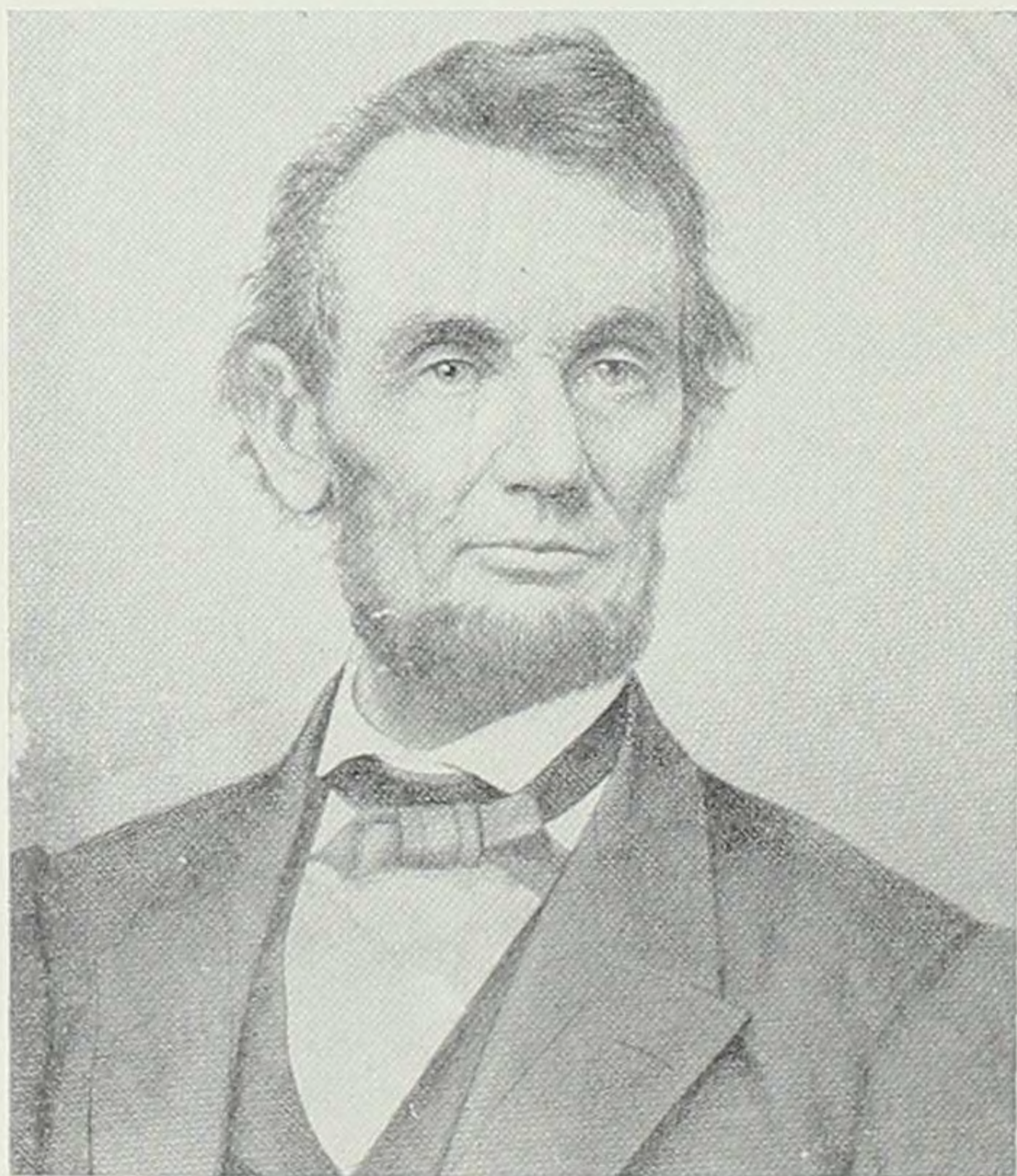
*Hay's LINCOLN IN THE CIVIL WAR (1939).*

Real education is the mastery of our own lan-

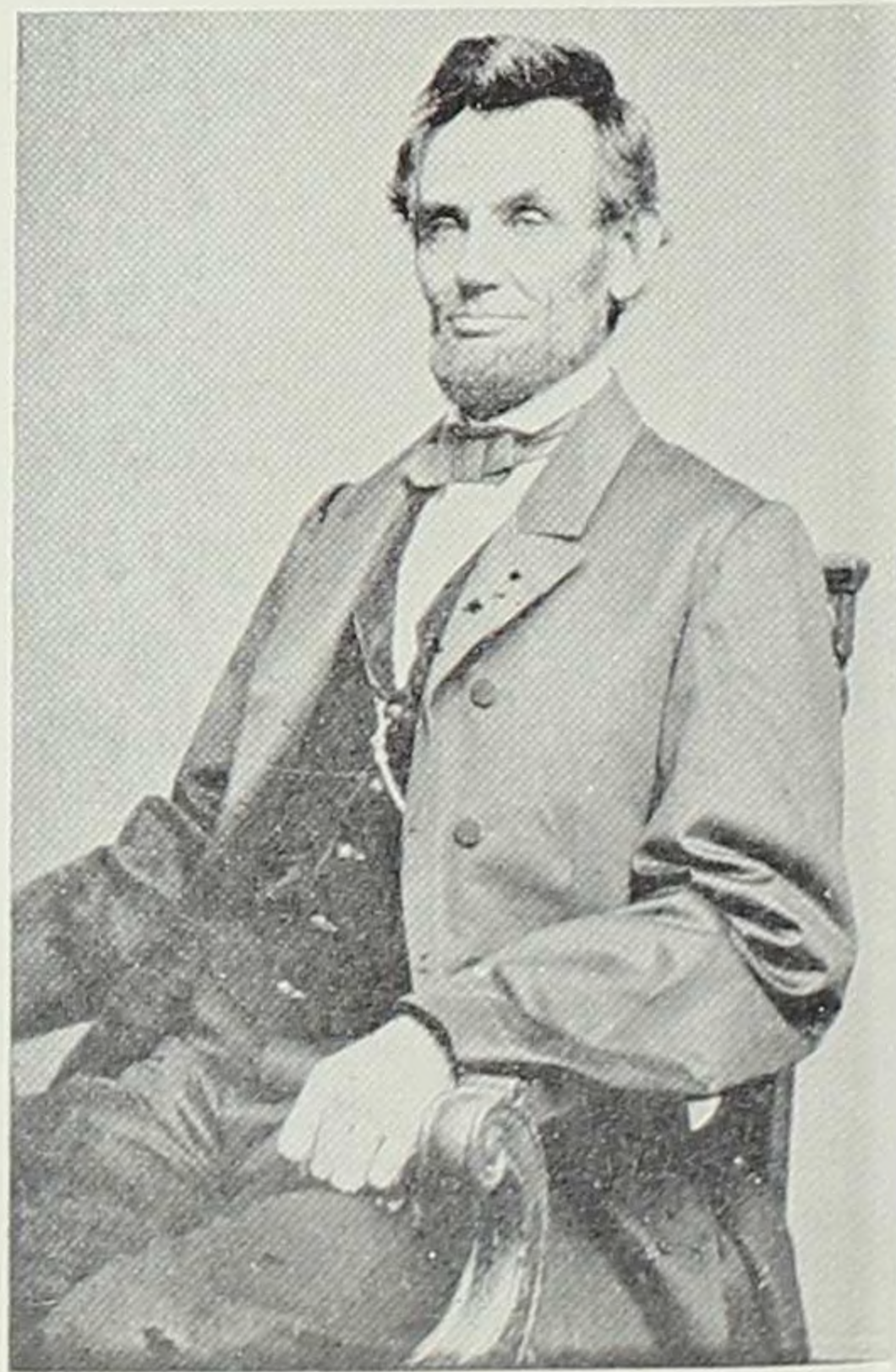


guage as a tool for our use, the appreciation of words in their right meaning, a living through the experience of the race and making it our own experience. . . .

Though Lincoln always said his education was defective, it was the kind of education that every youth, man, and woman needs today, for it was a constant hunt for ideas, a continual process of self-education all through life. With all the con-



M. B. Brady Photo  
Abraham Lincoln



M. B. Brady Photo  
President Lincoln

tributions of our schools and higher institutions of learning, there is the constant peril that we shall confound schooling with education.

*By Dr. John H. Findlay in a Lincoln day address.*



It is a mistake to think of Mr. Lincoln as an uneducated man. The "kindergarten" and "primary" courses were taken in a Kentucky cabin, with his mother as "principal." Possibly he never learned at his school to make maps, but he did learn "manners and morals." At the age of nine he entered the academy to prepare for college. This "school of learning" was located in a "clearing" on his father's farm, a "little house in the woods" in the State of Indiana. Here his attention was first directed to "physical culture." This study he was not permitted to neglect. The "gymnasium" was well furnished with "apparatus" — axes, wedges, mauls, log-chains, cross-bars, swinging saplings, etc. Then came "nature study out on the campus." He found spring beauties and sweet williams, May-apples and purple grapes, and, out beyond, the prairie grasses and the wild rose. From these, from trees, shrub and plant, from form, color and perfume, came that sense of beauty embodied in those exquisite prose poems which we so much love to read. This branch of study included zoölogy. He learned the names of animals, their nature, habits, instincts, history and language. He knew when the birds mated and how they built their homes, and he learned well the lesson best worth learning from science — to be kind and gentle to all animals.

*J. S. Ewing Address to Schoolmasters. Feb. 12, 1909*



## Iowa Remembers Lincoln

In 1951 Rutgers University Press published F. L. Ballard's *Lincoln, in Marble and Bronze* listing over eighty heroic size statues of the martyred President that have been erected within the continental United States, in Porto Rico, Hawaii, England and Scotland. Illinois leads the states with fifteen. New York had eight, Wisconsin seven, and Iowa was credited with four. Our personal research accounts for *five* located at Clear Lake, Clermont, Jefferson, Sioux City and Webster City. The Webster City bronze is an original by Graniere, the others are all replicas of previously-located creations by outstanding sculptors. Each has artistic merit and serves as a lasting lesson in Americanism.

No man, so lacking in physical beauty of face and figure, has been so immortalized in imperishable materials. Other thousands of additional busts and small statuettes in plaster, wood, bronze, marble, granite and limestone are scattered throughout our land. Originally, and at first glance, his figurements were the despair of artists. That uncouth frame and rugged face, variously described as monstrously ugly or strangely beautiful, seemed to many as actually grotesque. The

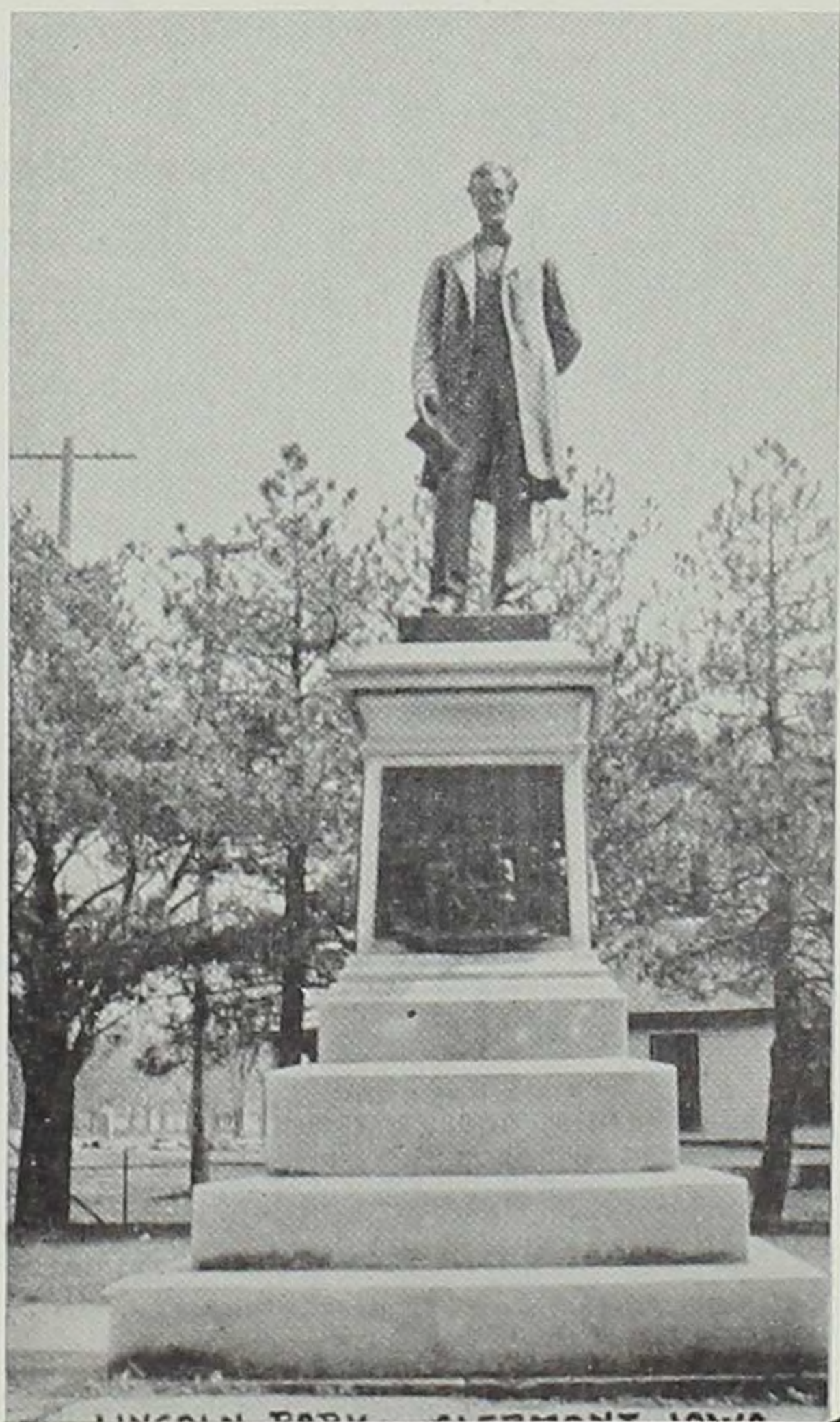


great thatch of wild hair, the flopping ears, prodigious mouth, thin gaunt cheeks were so, but his eyes and smile were beautiful and touched with the magnetic gleam of genius. In February, 1865, Clark Mills made a life mask of the bearded Lincoln which sculptors since then have used to advantage.

The first Lincoln statue to be erected in Iowa was presented to the town of Clermont by former governor William Larrabee, a resident of Clermont for sixty years. It stands in a little park along Highway 18 just across from the railway depot. Dedicated on June 19, 1903, it is the work of George E. Bissell, who served during the Civil War with a Connecticut regiment and as a navy paymaster. Bissell studied for two years in Paris, Florence, and Rome, and later operated studios at Poughkeepsie and Mount Vernon, New York.

The original Bissell statue stands in Edinburgh, Scotland, and was the first Lincoln to be placed outside the United States. It was erected in 1893 as a memorial to the 79th New York Highlanders, of the Army of the Potomac, who were distinguished by

Bissell Statue — Clermont





their peculiar Scotch caps with two quills thrust through one side. Its erection was instigated by Wallace Bruce, American Consul at Edinburgh from 1889 to 1893. A two hundred and fifty man guard of honor led by pipers of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders participated. At the base of the Scottish statue below Lincoln is the bronze figure of a slave and also the regimental colors. These, of course, are lacking in the Clermont reproduction.

Governor Larrabee admired the statue while visiting in Edinburgh and arranged with Bissell for a replica as a memorial to be dedicated in memory of the soldiers and sailors of Fayette County. Life size, the bronze surmounts a base of granite ornamented with four attractive tablets in bold bas-relief. One shows Grant and Lee at Appomattox, one the Navy at Mobile, another a soldier leaving home and the fourth the victory at Shiloh. The bearded, frock-coated President, right foot advanced, a small scroll in one hand, the other behind his back, is well and pleasingly delineated.

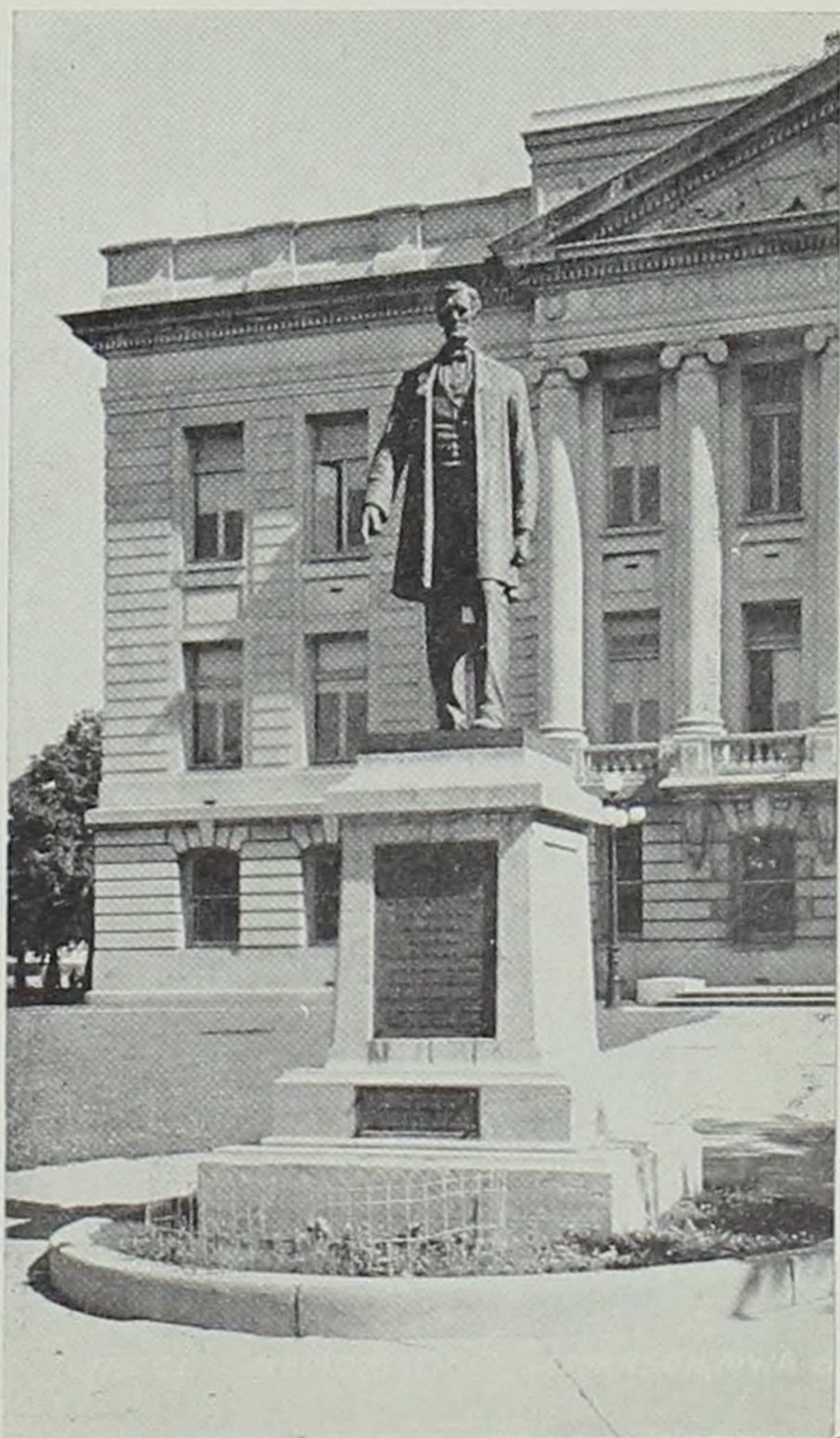
In 1902 Cincinnati, Ohio, honored Old Abe by erecting the monumental work of W. Granville Hastings, who had come to America from England at the age of twenty-three. The young artist died at Mount Vernon, New York, at the age of thirty-four, some six months before his Ohio monument was unveiled. The bronze figure as he conceived it is of quiet dignity with the left foot and



right hand well advanced. The hand holds a small manuscript. Replicas have since been placed at Bunker Hill, Illinois, and at Jefferson and Sioux City in Iowa.

The one at Jefferson, located in front of the Greene County court house and facing Highway 30 was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wilson who hoped that residents of Greene County and tourists on the Lincoln Highway would "come under the spell of that calm and dignified face and rugged features." It was dedicated on September 21, 1918, in conjunction with the Des Moines conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. Taking part in the program were Methodist Bishop Mathew S. Hughes, the Jefferson Drum Corps, thirty G.A.R. members, and Michael F. Healy, the eloquent though blind lawyer of Fort Dodge. George H. Thomas Post of the Grand Army had charge of the unveiling and Parley Sheldon of Ames represented the Lincoln Highway Association. It was the original intention of the donors to mount the statue on a base of Vermont marble but due to delays in filling the order, a contract for a temporary base of cement

Hastings Statue — Jefferson





and kellastone was given Allen Cooke. This contractor builded so well that his work has never been replaced.

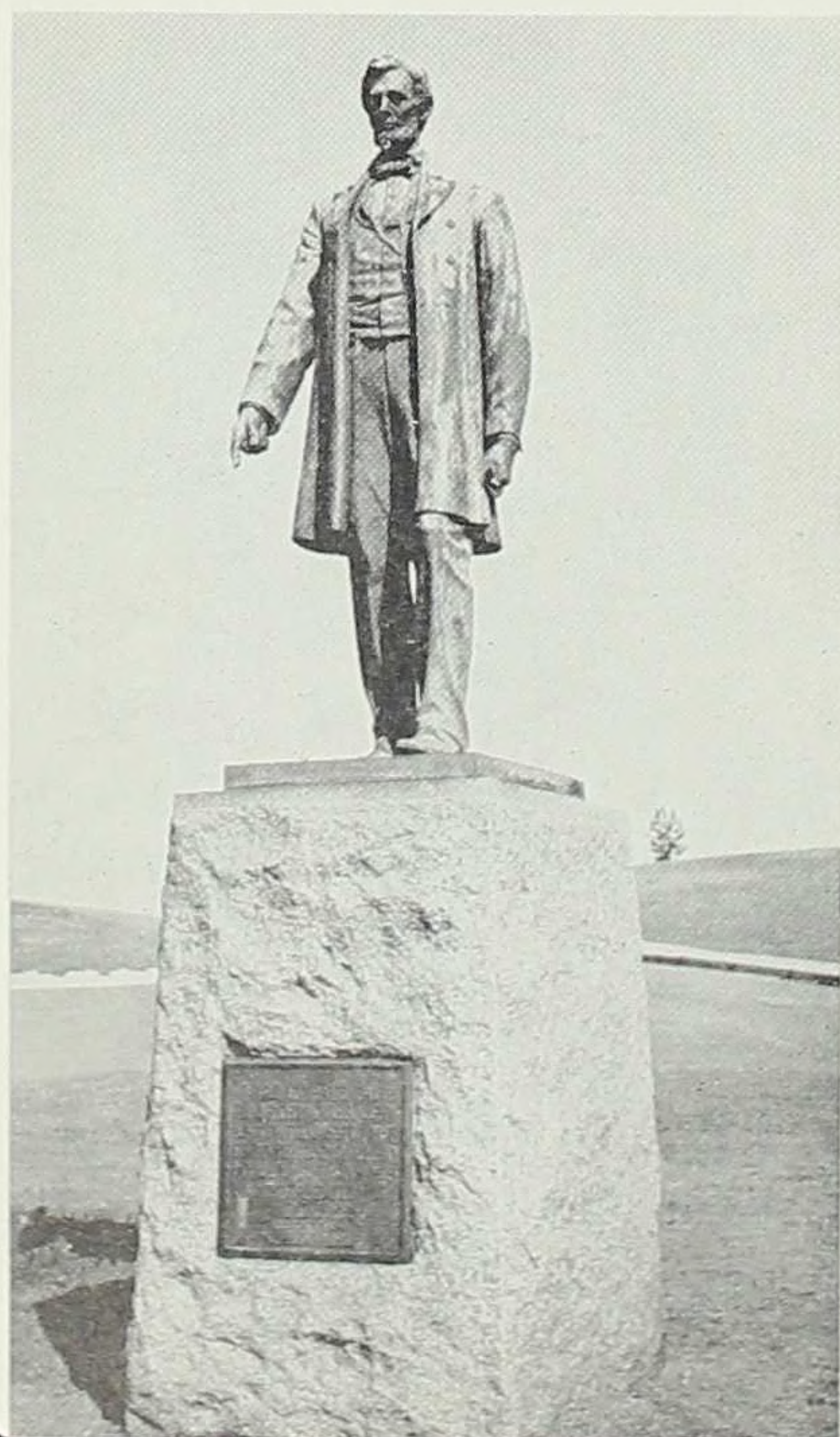
At Sioux City on April 5, 1924, similar services were held at Grandview Park for a seven foot, seven inch reproduction of Hastings' Lincoln mounted on a seven foot pedestal of Minnesota granite bearing the concluding words of the Cooper Union address: "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

This memorial set among blooming flowers and a spreading lawn was the gift of John Adam and Elizabeth Magoun. John was born in Boston in

1861 but came to Sioux City as a child and was for many years president of the Sioux National Bank. It has been said that the shoulders of this statue are broader and the chest more massive than was Lincoln's but the artist has given the work a more than ordinary understanding of Lincoln's character and of the second inaugural address which it depicts. It, like all the Iowa memorials, has infinite merit and dignity.

George Etienne Graniere,

Hastings Statue — Sioux City



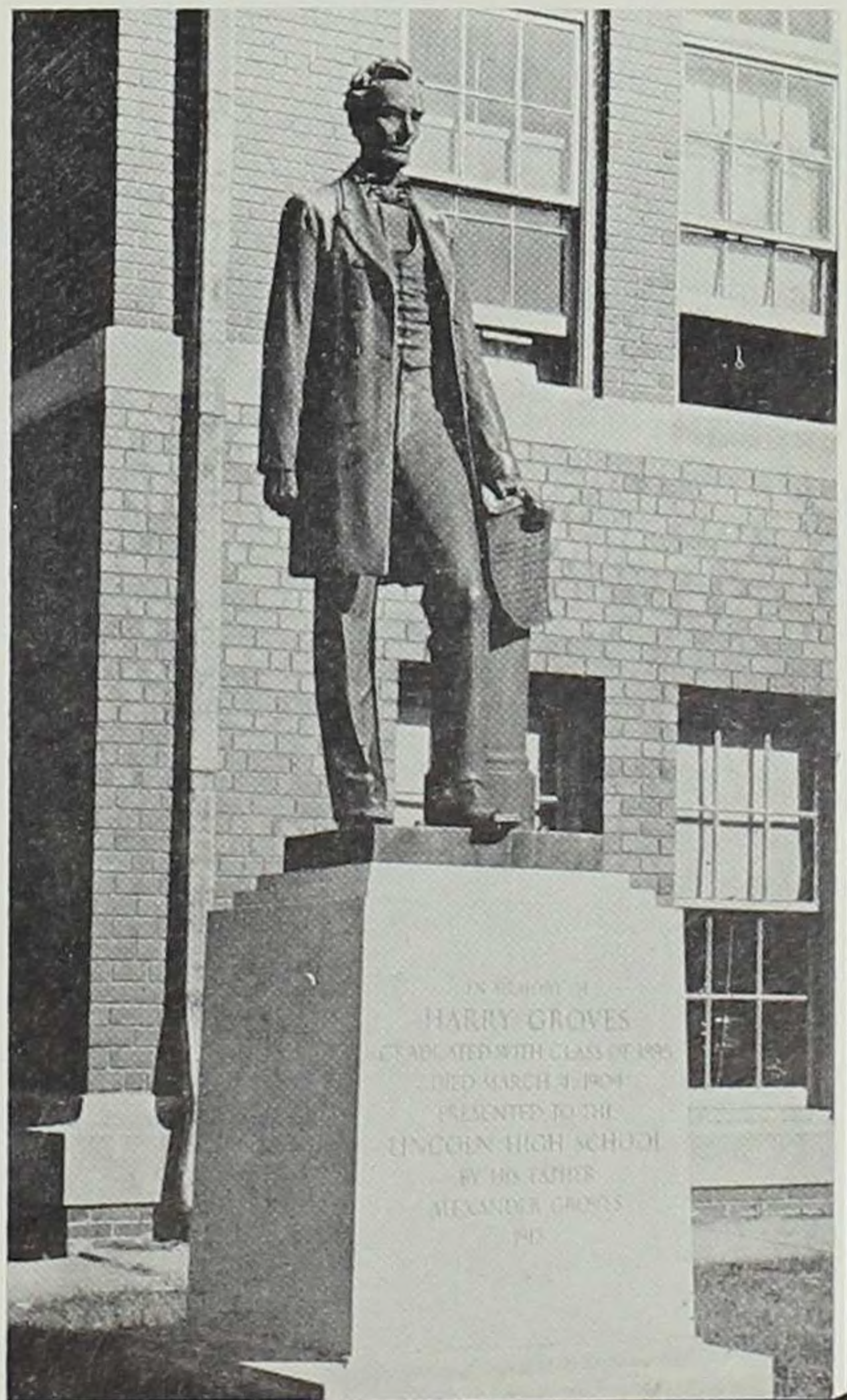


who modeled the Webster City statue, was a Chicago and Florida resident who had exhibited at Buffalo in 1901, St. Louis in 1904, San Francisco in 1915, and who represented Florida at the Chicago Pageant of Progress in 1933. He died in 1935 and was the only sculptor to have two different Lincoln statues dedicated the same year.

Alexander Grove, prominent Hamilton County farmer and stock grower, donated the bronze to the Webster City School as a memorial to his son Harry, a graduate of the class of 1895 who had died in 1909. A graduate lawyer of the University of Michigan and the State University of Iowa, Harry had practiced law for six years in Montana before losing his health from over-application to his work. He went to Arizona seeking a cure but died shortly after. Lincoln had long been his ideal and for this reason his parents initiated the presentation. Dedicated at appropriate and moving services on April 9, 1913, the seven foot four inch bronze stood on a block of verde antique marble for several years in the assembly room on the second floor of Lincoln School.

In 1927 it was moved out-

Graniere Statue — Webster City





doors and placed on a high granite base just northwest of the school building where it still fulfills the prophecy of one of the inaugural speakers: "Lessons, constantly suggested as they will be by this memorial, cannot help but exert great influences for good upon the young minds that receive them, and we need have little concern about the future of the young man or woman who in disposition and character seeks to be like Abraham Lincoln."

On June 29, 1919, the Honorable James W.

Willett of Tama, naval veteran of the war of 61-65, spoke at the dedicatory program in the cemetery at Clear Lake of a monument made of Barre and Monticello granite. It is a copy of the famous St. Gaudens statue in Lincoln Park, Chicago. Constructed of ten pieces of granite, the memory stands twenty-two feet high and weighs forty tons. Sponsored by Tom Howard Post No. 101 of the Grand Army of the Republic, a contract for its construction at a cost of \$5,290.00 was awarded the C. E. Dayton Company from funds provided

St. Gaudens Statue — Clear Lake





by the Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors and the county Soldier Relief Commission. Judge Joseph J. Clark of Mason City, another of the speakers, stirred his audience with a glowing tribute to Lincoln, the flag and its defenders.

Thus, at five locations, have Iowans honored and perpetuated the memory of Abraham Lincoln, who was, as described on the marble D.A.R. shaft on Point Lookout in Council Bluffs,

“A King of Men

Whose crown was love

Whose throne was gentleness.”

RAY MURRAY



## Lincoln Sesquicentennial In Iowa

On September 2, 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower approved a Joint Resolution of Congress establishing the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission. The Commission consisted of five members appointed by the President of the Senate, five appointed by the Speaker of the House, and twelve appointed by the President of the United States, each of the three in turn serving as members of the Commission. An Executive Committee of eight was formed from the above appointees with Conrad L. Wirth, Director of the National Park Service, who was a statutory member of the Commission, acting as their secretary. Professor William E. Baringer was named the Executive Director of the Executive Staff.

In its *Handbook of Information* the Commission outlined incontrovertible reasons for celebrating the life of Lincoln:

He was truly a great man. He influenced the course of history. His wisdom and innate faith in his countrymen enabled him, as President of the United States, to lead the nation safely through the horrors of a civil war. "In his character," wrote the historian George Bancroft, "Lincoln was through and through an American." In the Commemoration Ode read at Harvard College on July 21, 1865, James Russell Lowell called him "the first American."



As a frontier boy and youth, as an Illinois politician and lawyer, and as the leader of a nation, Abraham Lincoln practiced the cardinal virtues of humility, steadfastness, faith in righteousness, and the forgiving spirit. Then too, his humor, his earthiness, and his utter lack of pretension made him one with common humanity. Herein too is his greatness. Stephen A. Douglas, who argued, disputed, and debated with Lincoln throughout the State of Illinois, admitted that "Lincoln is the honestest man I ever knew." And when General Grant was asked his opinion of Lincoln, he replied: "He was incontestably the greatest man I ever knew."

The Commission outlined a threefold purpose in its *Handbook*:

In the first place, to make available for ready reference the text of H. J. Res. 351 under which the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission operates, together with a complete roster of its membership; in the second place, to suggest certain aids to those who prepare programs in honor of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Lincoln; and, in the third, to encourage and invite groups of citizens to institute Lincoln programs during the sesquicentennial year.

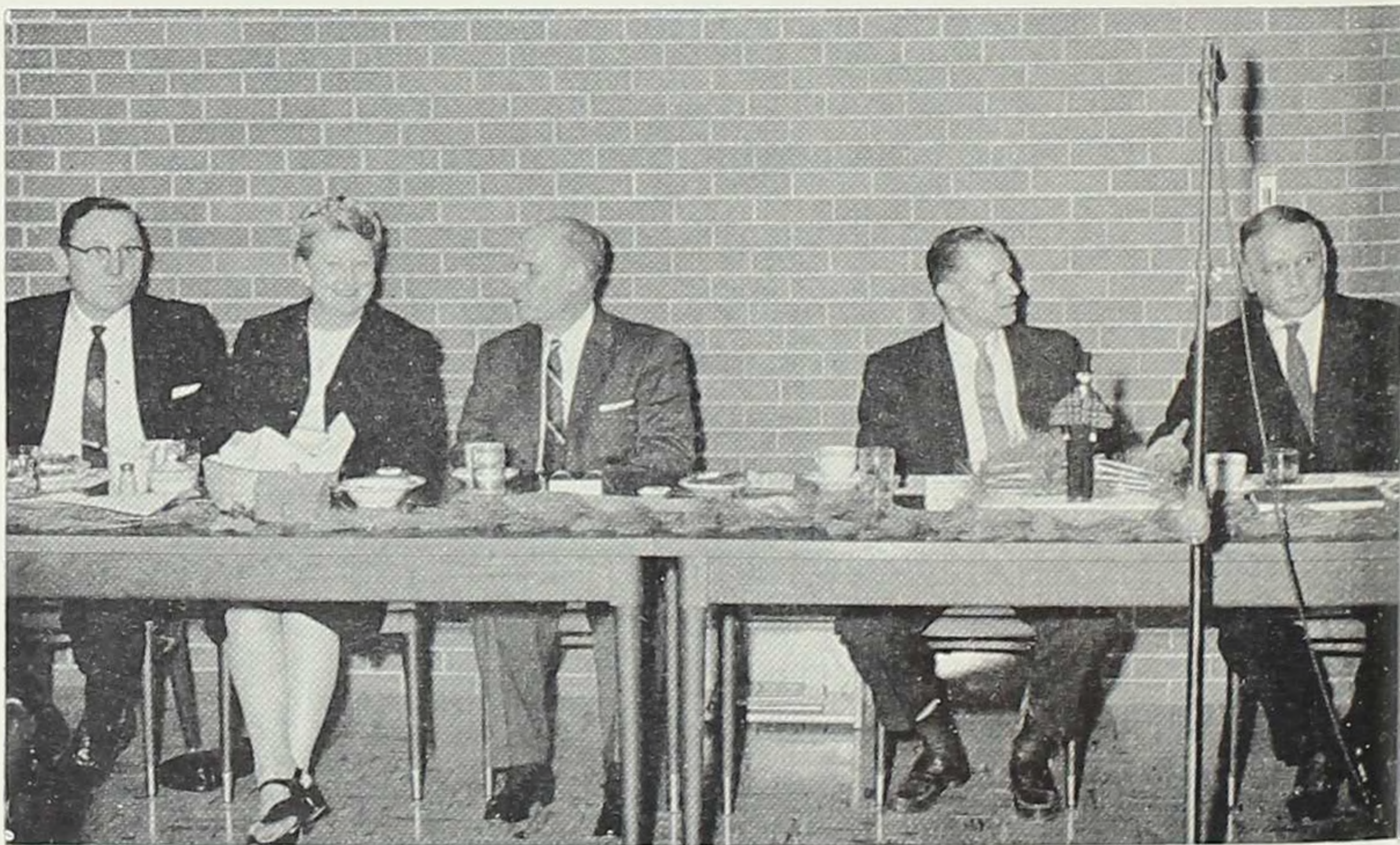
The Commission felt that its limited materials would at least be helpful to those planning programs:

The life and career of President Lincoln were sufficiently varied and noble to contain elements of interest to almost every group — patriotic, civic, legal, educational, and service — as well as to churches, schools, and libraries and to media such as the press, radio, and television. The programs may take the form of panel discussions, ad-



dressess, plays, debates, sermons, dramatic readings, music, pageants, or exhibits.

Iowans were not slow to participate in the Lincoln Sesquicentennial. Congressman Fred Schwengel named the Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa as chairman of a committee to advise with his Washington group and



First Sesquicentennial Dinner at Iowa Wesleyan

Seated, left to right: Congressman Fred Schwengel, Mrs. William J. Petersen, President J. Raymond Chadwick of Iowa Wesleyan College, Dr. William E. Baringer, Executive Director of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission, and Superintendent William J. Petersen of the State Historical Society of Iowa.

coordinate activities in Iowa. Although loosely knit this Committee was responsible for many Lincoln observances in Iowa.



The first program arranged was a Lincoln dinner held on the Iowa Wesleyan campus on Saturday, December 13, 1958. It was sponsored jointly by the State Historical Society of Iowa and Iowa Wesleyan College with the avowed purpose of bringing together of all Iowans interested in Abraham Lincoln and Lincoln lore. Dr. William J. Petersen presided over the program, Reverend Russell Jay gave the invocation, and Dr. J. Raymond Chadwick, President of Iowa Wesleyan College, gave a penetrating talk on the Harlan-Lincoln Tradition at Iowa Wesleyan. College Players of Iowa Wesleyan then presented "The Lonesome Train," a dramatic presentation of the reactions of the people as the Lincoln funeral train bore his body westward from Washington to Springfield a thousand miles through seven states. Congressman Fred Schwengel introduced the speaker of the evening, Professor William E. Baringer, Executive Director of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission.

In addition to furnishing over five hundred Iowa newspapers with press releases on Lincoln and Iowa, the Superintendent of the Society arranged the annual Lincoln Day program for the 58th General Assembly. President J. Raymond Chadwick spoke on "Abraham Lincoln and His Friends," Representative William E. Darrington spoke on "Abraham Lincoln: Is This Your Life?," and the Iowa Wesleyan College Players pre-



sented "The Lonesome Train." Eyewitnesses observed that many a legislator's vision was tear-dimmed at the conclusion of this program.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Iowa communities observed the Sesquicentennial of Lincoln's birth in school, in service and study clubs, from the pulpit, by means of radio and television programs, and through feature articles in the press. No Lincoln's Birthday since 1909 has been more widely commemorated or fervently observed.

A project that attracted nation-wide participation was the \$2,000 Lincoln essay contest conducted by Broadcast Music, Inc., and the American Association for State and Local History, in association with *This Week Magazine*. The subject of the 1,500-word essays was to be on the theme "Reflections While Standing Before the Lincoln Memorial." State historical societies from all over the United States served as judges of the essays contributed by citizens of their own state. Almost one hundred essays were submitted by Iowans writing in the two categories — professional and non-professional. The American Association for State and Local History then narrowed the field of winners picked from the two submitted from each state. Finally, a committee composed of such leading Lincoln authorities as Paul M. Angle, Ralph Bunche, Bruce Catton, Allan Nevins, Mark Van Doren, Ralph G. Newman, and Kenneth D. Wells, made the final selection of



winners. Helen Marie Newell of Boise, Idaho, won the \$500 prize in the professional writer group, and Nancy A. Potter, a native of Connecticut but a literature teacher at the University of Rhode Island since 1947, won in the non-professional category.

While the General Assembly was still in session Governor Herschel Loveless appointed ten Iowans to serve on Friends of Lincoln, Inc., a group whose purpose, in addition to stimulating the proper observance of the birth of Lincoln, was especially interested in promoting a bronze monument of Abraham Lincoln and his son by the distinguished sculptor — Fred Torre. The members of this committee were Reinhold Carlson, Rev. John D. Clinton, Representative William E. Darrington, Judge Luther T. Glanton, Jr., Major Charles Iles of Des Moines, Robert Lappan, Harriet Macy, Representative A. L. Mensing, Senator George O'Malley, and Superintendent William J. Petersen of the State Historical Society of Iowa. John D. Clinton, who had spear-headed the drive, was named Executive Secretary, and Luther T. Glanton, Jr., and A. L. Mensing were elected co-chairmen. The Committee held several meetings during 1959 deliberating over the proper location of the statue and the best methods of raising funds. The first annual banquet of the Friends of Lincoln was held at the Des Moines Y.M.C.A. on February 12, 1960.



As a final tribute to the Great Emancipator, the State Historical Society of Iowa is devoting this commemorative issue of *THE PALIMPSEST* to Abraham Lincoln — America's martyr president who not only "belongs to the ages" but to all humanity.

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN



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*"History is not history unless it is the truth."*

—TO W. H. HERNDON, 1856.

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## A Chronology of Abraham Lincoln

Feb. 12, 1809	Born near Hodgenville, Ky.
Nov. 1816	Moved with parents to Indiana
Oct. 5, 1818	Mother died
Dec. 13, 1818	Mary Todd born at Lexington, Ky.
Dec. 2, 1819	Father married Sarah Bush Johnston
Jan. 20, 1828	Sister Sarah died
Mar. 1830	Moved with family to Illinois
Mar. 9, 1831	Made first political speech
Apr. 19, 1831	Boat piloted by Lincoln stuck on dam
Mar. 9, 1832	Announced candidacy for Legislature
Apr. 21, 1832	Elected captain of military company
May 8, 1832	Mustered into U. S. Army for service in the Black Hawk War
July 16, 1832	Mustered out of military service
Aug. 6, 1832	Defeated for Legislature
May 7, 1833	Appointed postmaster at New Salem
Jan. 14, 1834	Submitted first known report as deputy surveyor of Sangamon County, Ill.
Aug. 4, 1834	Elected to Legislature
Jan. 13, 1836	Published announcement of his political views
Mar. 24, 1836	Sworn in as a lawyer of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County
Aug. 1, 1836	Reelected to Legislature for second term
Sept. 9, 1836	Licensed to practice law
Mar. 1, 1837	Admitted to the bar in Illinois



Mar. 3, 1837	Wrote protest against legislative action on slavery
Mar. 15, 1837	Moved from New Salem to Springfield
Apr. 12, 1837	Formed law partnership with John T. Stuart
Jan. 27, 1838	Delivered Lyceum address at Springfield
Aug. 1, 1838	Reelected to Legislature for third term
Oct. 8, 1839	Selected as presidential elector by the Whig State Convention at Springfield
Dec. 3, 1839	Admitted to practice in the Circuit Court of the United States
Dec. 20, 1839	Spoke in legislative hall, on the subtreasury
Jan. 1, 1840	Sponsored Whig circular
Jan. 30, 1840	Spoke in defense of "Internal Improvement" in Legislature
June 6, 1840	Made first <i>appearance</i> before the Illinois Supreme Court as one of the attorneys in the case of Thomas <i>v.</i> Heirs of Baxter Broadwell
June 18, 1840	Made first <i>argument</i> before Illinois Supreme Court as a defendant in the case of Scammon <i>v.</i> Cline
Aug. 1, 1840	Reelected to Legislature for fourth term
Jan. 1, 1841	Broke engagement with Mary Todd
May 14, 1841	Formed law partnership with Stephen T. Logan
Feb. 22, 1842	Spoke to Washingtonian Temperance Society at Springfield
June 17, 1842	Accompanied Ex-President Martin Van Buren from Rochester to Springfield, Illinois
Sept. 19, 1842	A duel between Lincoln and Shields proposed by seconds
Nov. 4, 1842	Married Mary Todd of Lexington, Ky.
Mar. 1, 1843	Sponsored Whig resolution
Aug. 1, 1843	Robert Todd Lincoln, eldest child, born
Jan. 7, 1844	Bought home in Springfield
Sept. 20, 1844	Formed law partnership with William H. Herndon
Oct. 26, 1844	Visited boyhood home in Indiana
Mar. 10, 1846	Edward Baker Lincoln, second child, born
May 1, 1846	Nominated as Whig candidate for Congress
Aug. 3, 1846	Elected to Congress
May 16, 1847	Addressed temperance society
July 1, 1847	Left home to attend Rivers and Harbors Convention at Chicago. Attended Convention July 6.
Oct. 25, 1847	Left Springfield to serve congressional term
Dec. 6, 1847	Took seat in Congress
Dec. 22, 1847	Introduced "spot resolutions" in Congress
Jan. 12, 1848	Spoke on "spot resolutions"



- Jan. 21, 1848 Presented petition in Congress "praying for a further testing of a discovery of 'liquid fire' to be used in national defenses"
- Feb. 21, 1848 Present in the House of Representatives when John Quincy Adams was stricken
- June 9, 1848 Attended Whig Convention at Philadelphia
- June 20, 1848 Spoke in Congress on internal improvements
- July 27, 1848 Spoke in Congress on Gen. Taylor's qualifications for President
- Sept. 12, 1848 Spoke at Worcester, Mass., advocating election of Taylor
- Sept. 15 and Sept. 22, 1848 Spoke at Boston, advocating Taylor for President
- Jan. 10, 1849 Introduced bill to free slaves in District of Columbia
- Mar. 4, 1849 Member of arrangements committee for Taylor inaugural ball
- Mar. 7, 1849 Admitted to practice before United States Supreme Court
- May 30, 1849 Granted patent on boat-lifting device
- Sept. 12, 1849 Wrote resolution of sympathy with Hungarian Revolution
- Feb. 1, 1850 Edward Baker Lincoln, second child, died
- July 25, 1850 Delivered eulogy on Zachary Taylor
- Dec. 21, 1850 William Wallace Lincoln, third child, born
- Jan. 17, 1851 Father died
- Jan. 9, 1852 Offered resolutions in behalf of Hungarian Freedom
- July 16, 1852 Delivered eulogy of Henry Clay at Springfield
- Jan. 23, 1853 Attended a temperance lecture by Rev. James Smith
- Apr. 4, 1853 Thomas ("Tad") Lincoln, fourth child, born
- June 14, 1854 Introduced Ex-President Fillmore to Springfield citizens
- Sept. 4, 1854 Announced as candidate for State Legislature
- Oct. 16, 1854 Spoke at Peoria on the repeal of the Missouri Compromise
- Nov. 7, 1854 Elected to Illinois Legislature
- Nov. 27, 1854 Filed notice declining to accept the office of Representative in the General Assembly
- Jan. 16, 1855 Made opening argument in Illinois Central Tax Case
- Feb. 8, 1855 Defeated for United States senator by vote of Legislature
- Feb. 15, 1855 Entertained the anti-Nebraska members of the Legislature with a dinner



Feb. 16, 1861	Spoke at Buffalo
Feb. 17, 1861	Attended Unitarian Church of Buffalo, N. Y., with Ex-President Fillmore
Feb. 18, 1861	Spoke at Rochester, N. Y.
Feb. 18, 1861	Spoke at Utica, N. Y.
Feb. 18, 1861	Spoke at Albany, N. Y.
Feb. 19, 1861	Spoke at Troy, N. Y.
Feb. 19, 1861	Spoke at Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Feb. 19, 1861	Spoke at Hudson, N. Y.
Feb. 19 and Feb. 20, 1861	Spoke in New York City
Feb. 21, 1861	Spoke at Trenton, N. J.
Feb. 22, 1861	Raised flag at Independence Hall, Philadelphia
Feb. 22, 1861	Spoke to Pennsylvania Legislature, Harrisburg
Feb. 23, 1861	Arrived in Washington
Feb. 24, 1861	Attended church with William H. Seward
Feb. 25, 1861	President Buchanan called on Lincoln at Willard's Hotel
Mar. 4, 1861	Inaugurated as President
Mar. 29, 1861	Ordered relief of Fort Sumter
Apr. 1, 1861	Answered Seward, relative to control of administration
Apr. 13, 1861	Replied to committee of Virginia Convention
Apr. 13, 1861	Fort Sumter fell
Apr. 15, 1861	Called for 75,000 volunteers
Apr. 19, 1861	Proclaimed blockade
Apr. 27, 1861	Broadened blockade, closing the ports of Virginia and North Carolina
May 3, 1861	Issued call for 42,034 volunteers
May 10, 1861	Proclaimed martial law
May 25, 1861	Wrote letter of condolence "To the Father and Mother of Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth"
July 4, 1861	First message to Congress
July 22, 1861	Vested with war powers by Congress
Aug. 8, 1861	Proclaimed Fast Day
Sept. 2, 1861	Sent letter to General Fremont revoking proclamation concerning liberation of slaves
Nov. 1, 1861	Appointed McClellan to command of Union armies
Dec. 3, 1861	First annual message to Congress
Dec. 26, 1861	Made decision in Trent case
Jan. 27, 1862	Issued General War Order No. 1
Feb. 20, 1862	William Wallace Lincoln, third child, died
Mar. 6, 1862	Recommended to Congress compensated emancipation



- Sept. 16, 1859 Spoke at Columbus, Ohio, on behalf of Republican state ticket
- Sept. 17, 1859 Spoke at Cincinnati, continuing argument made at Columbus
- Sept. 17, 1859 Delivered addresses at Dayton and Hamilton
- Sept. 30, 1859 Spoke at Milwaukee on the importance of agriculture
- Dec. 27, 1859 Located warrant for 120 acres of Iowa land issued for services in Black Hawk War
- Feb. 27, 1860 Cooper Institute address in New York
- Mar. 2, 1860 Addressed audience in Dover, N. H.
- Mar. 5, 1860 Spoke at Hartford, Conn., on the slavery issue
- Mar. 6, 1860 Spoke at New Haven, Conn.
- Mar. 8, 1860 Addressed audiences in Meriden, Conn., and Woonsocket, R. I.
- May 9, 1860 Selected as a candidate for the Presidency by Illinois Republican Convention
- May 18, 1860 Nominated for the Presidency
- May 19, 1860 Received notification committee from the Chicago Convention
- June 3, 1860 Photographed at Springfield by Hesler
- June 20, 1860 Appeared for last time as a practitioner in United States Circuit Court
- June 30, 1860 Received C. A. Barry, a Massachusetts artist
- July 4, 1860 Degree of LL.D. conferred on Lincoln by Knox College
- Aug. 8, 1860 Spoke at Springfield, acknowledging greetings of friends and neighbors
- Nov. 6, 1860 Elected President
- Nov. 22, 1860 Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln met Vice-President Elect Hamlin by appointment in Chicago
- Dec. 6, 1860 Sold *Illinois Staats-Anzeiger*
- Dec. 12, 1860 Wrote editorial for *Illinois State Journal*
- Dec. 22, 1860 Wrote memorandum on fugitive slave clause of Constitution
- Jan. 31, 1861 Visited for last time his stepmother, living in Coles County, Illinois
- Feb. 11, 1861 Delivered farewell to Springfield
- Feb. 11 and Feb. 12, 1861 Delivered at Indianapolis first of speeches en route to Washington
- Feb. 13, 1861 Spoke to Ohio Legislature, Columbus
- Feb. 14, 1861 Spoke at Steubenville, Ohio
- Feb. 15, 1861 Spoke at Pittsburgh
- Feb. 15, 1861 Spoke at Cleveland



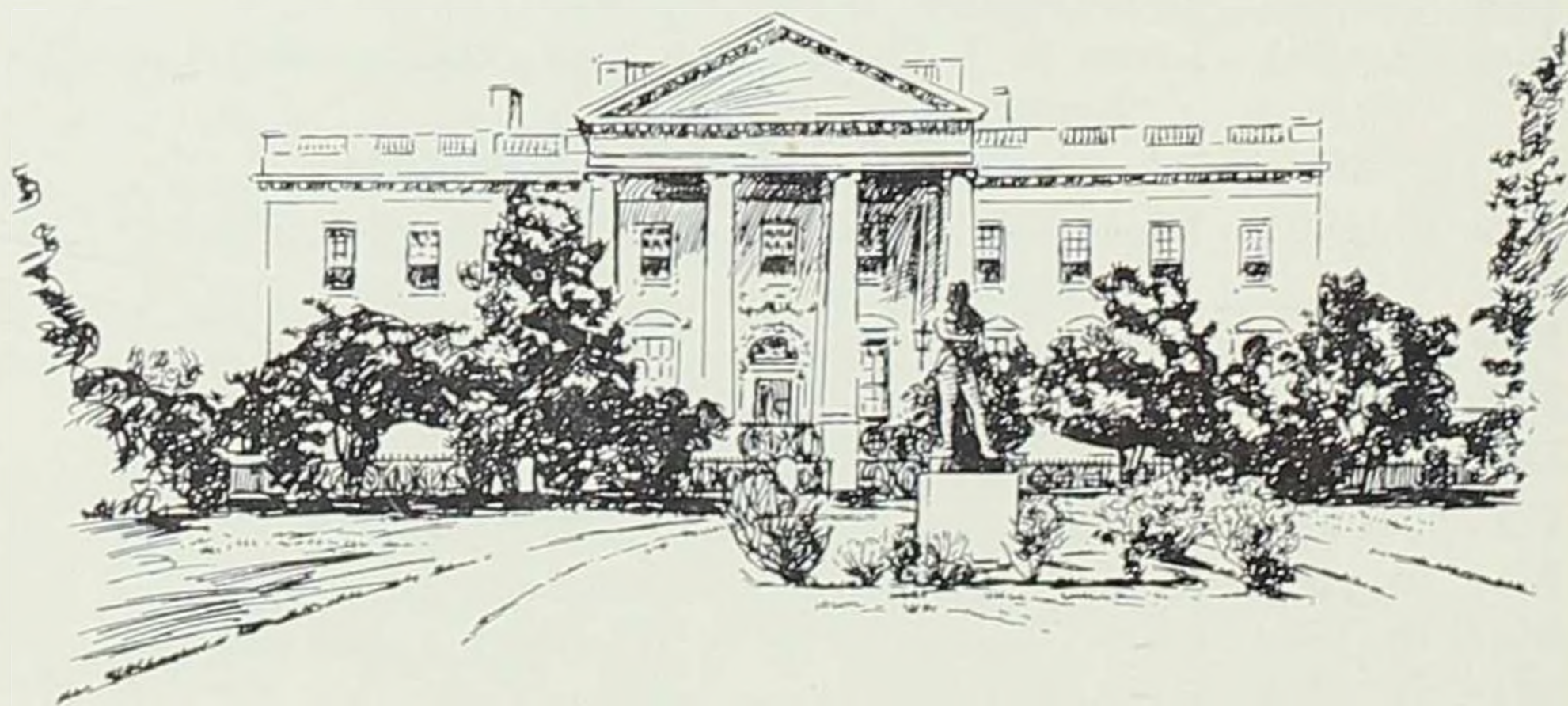
Sept. 21, 1855	Humiliated by being ignored in McCormick Reaper case at Cincinnati
Feb. 22, 1856	Made important speech at Decatur, Illinois, before Editors' Convention
May 29, 1856	Delivered "lost speech" at Bloomington
June 19, 1856	Received 110 convention votes for Vice-President on the Fremont ticket
July 19, 1856	Delivered Fremont campaign speech in Chicago
Dec. 10, 1856	Spoke at Republican banquet at Chicago
Jan. 6, 1857	Newspaper notice of construction of an "addition to house on 8th Street for A. Lincoln"
June 23, 1857	Awarded \$4800 in suit against Illinois Central Railroad
June 26, 1857	Spoke at Springfield on the Dred Scott decision
Sept. 24, 1857	Argued Rock Island bridge case
May 7, 1858	Defended Armstrong, who was charged with murder
June 16, 1858	Delivered "house divided" speech at Springfield
July 10, 1858	Spoke at Chicago on popular sovereignty and the Lecompton constitution
July 17, 1858	Spoke at Springfield, answering Douglas on the Dred Scott decision
Aug. 21, 1858	First debate with Douglas, at Ottawa
Aug. 27, 1858	Second debate, at Freeport
Sept. 8, 1858	Spoke at Paris on popular sovereignty and the Nebraska bill
Sept. 13, 1858	Spoke at Edwardsville on differences between the parties
Sept. 15, 1858	Third debate, at Jonesboro
Sept. 18, 1858	Fourth debate, at Charleston
Oct. 7, 1858	Fifth debate, at Galesburg
Oct. 13, 1858	Sixth debate, at Quincy
Oct. 15, 1858	Seventh and last debate, at Alton
Oct. 22, 1858	Honored by parade of 2,000 ladies at Carthage, Ill., where he spoke to a large assembly
Nov. 2, 1858	Defeated by Douglas for United States Senate
Nov. 5, 1858	First mentioned in press for President
Feb. 22, 1859	Lectured at Springfield on inventions and discoveries
Mar. 1, 1859	Spoke at Chicago at Republican meeting celebrating city victory
May 30, 1859	Bought <i>Illinois Staats-Anzeiger</i>
July 14, 1859	Started trip with party of state officials and lawyers over the lines of the Illinois Central Railroad
Aug. 13, 1859	Delivered address at Council Bluffs, Iowa



Apr. 10, 1862	Proclaimed first Thanksgiving Day
Apr. 16, 1862	Signed act freeing slaves in District of Columbia
July 1, 1862	Called for 300,000 volunteers
July 2, 1862	Signed the Morrill, Land Grant College, Bill
July 12, 1862	Outlined plan for compensated emancipation
Aug. 6, 1862	Spoke at Washington, touching on relations of Stanton and McClellan
Aug. 19, 1862	Replied to Horace Greeley editorial
Sept. 22, 1862	Issued preliminary Emancipation Proclamation
Sept. 30, 1862	Wrote meditation on Divine Will
Oct. 1, 1862	Visited battlefield of Antietam
Oct. 4, 1862	Spoke at Frederick, Md.
Nov. 15, 1862	Relieved McClellan of command
Dec. 1, 1862	Second annual message
Dec. 31, 1862	Wrote opinion on admission of West Virginia to Union
Jan. 1, 1863	Issued Emancipation Proclamation
Jan. 19, 1863	Letter to workingmen of Manchester
Jan. 24, 1863	Photographed by Alexander Gardner
Jan. 26, 1863	Wrote famous letter to General Hooker
Feb. 2, 1863	Letter to workingmen of London
Apr. 20, 1863	Proclaimed admission of West Virginia to Union
May 19, 1863	Ordered Vandalia beyond Union lines
June 12, 1863	Letter to Erastus Corning and others, concerning military arrests
Aug. 15, 1863	Wrote opinion on military draft
Aug. 26, 1863	Letter to J. C. Conkling and others, called Lincoln's "last stump speech"
Oct. 3, 1863	Proclaimed first annual Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 17, 1863	Issued proclamation fixing point of construction of Union Pacific Railroad
Nov. 19, 1863	Delivered Gettysburg Address
Dec. 8, 1863	Proclaimed amnesty and reconstruction
Dec. 8, 1863	Third annual message
Feb. 9, 1864	Photographed by Mathew Brady
Mar. 10, 1864	Appointed Grant to command Union armies
Mar. 18, 1864	Closed Sanitary Fair in Washington with address
Mar. 21, 1864	Replied to workingmen of New York
May 31, 1864	Fremont nominated for President by anti-Lincoln Republicans
June 8, 1864	Renominated for President
July 7, 1864	Proclaimed Day of Prayer
July 18, 1864	Called for 500,000 volunteers



Aug. 18, 1864	Address to 164th Ohio Regiment on our "free government"
Oct. 31, 1864	Issued proclamation admitting Nevada into Union
Nov. 8, 1864	Reelected President
Nov. 21, 1864	Wrote letter of condolence to Mrs. Bixby
Dec. 6, 1864	Nominated Chase for chief justice
Dec. 6, 1864	Fourth annual message
Dec. 20, 1864	Degree of LL.D. conferred by College of New Jersey (Princeton)
Feb. 3, 1865	Met Confederate envoys
Mar. 4, 1865	Reinaugurated as President
Mar. 11, 1865	Issued proclamation, offering pardon to deserters
Mar. 22, 1865	Visited Grant's army
Apr. 3, 1865	Notified of the fall of Richmond
Apr. 4, 1865	Visited Richmond
Apr. 9, 1865	Notified of Lee's surrender
Apr. 11, 1865	Delivered last public speech, in Washington
Apr. 14, 1865	Shot by Booth
Apr. 15, 1865	Died at Washington
May 4, 1865	Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Ill.





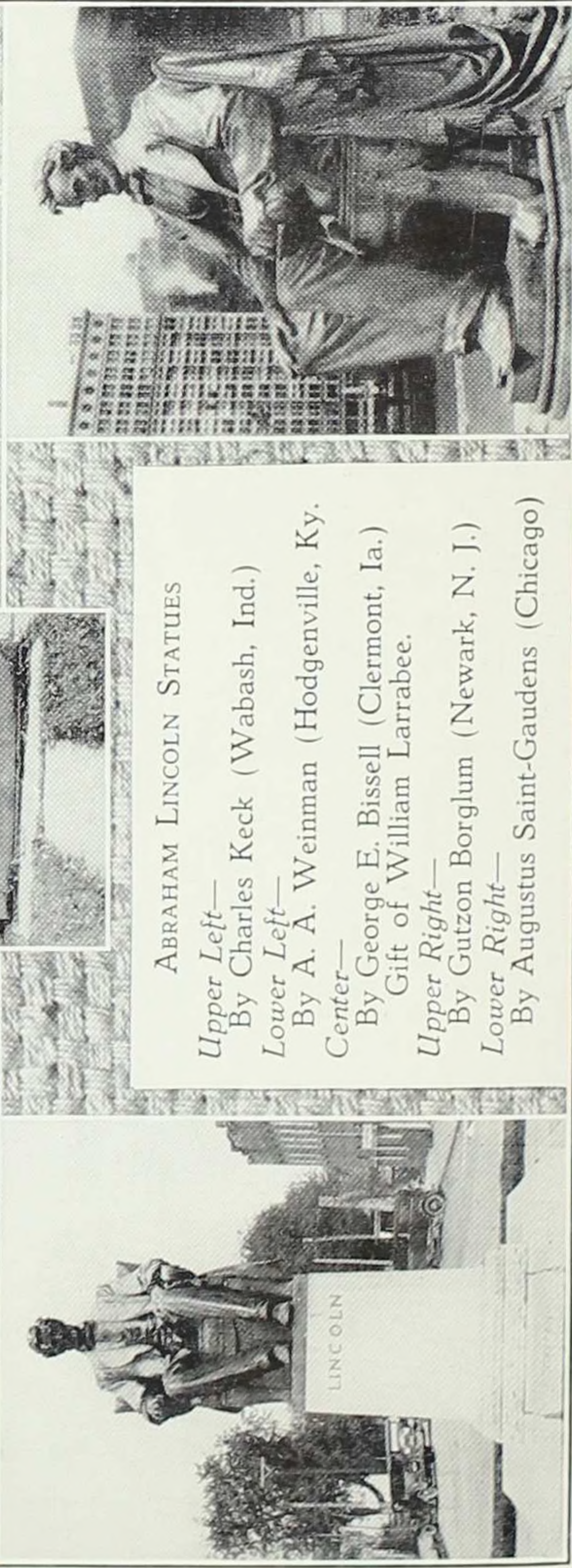
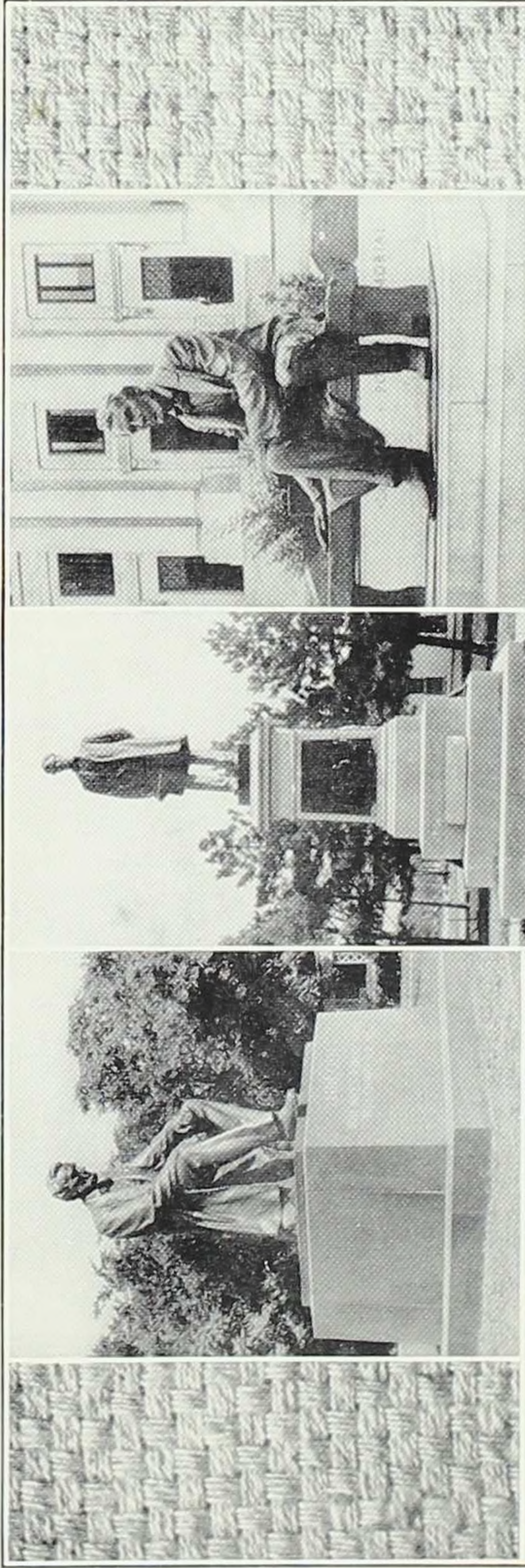
List of Indian prisoners now in confinement at Camp McClellan near Davenport Iowa pardoned and to be liberated and sent to their families

Papeta Tanka	Iyasa man
Tahiohpsi wakan	Ieaduza
Wakankedito	Manikiya
Tate sica	Otholonna
Wiyuka	Maiza adidi
Tunkan Oyate yanka	Tate Ibomdu
Pantaninniye	
Contidoka duta	
Kinyan hiyaya	
Wiyaka	
Kinyan hidan	
Oye Maiza	
Linkpatawa	
Tunkan Canholiska	
Wakaninapidan shis Maiza hiye man	
Kalpanthpan ku	
Tahokage	
Tunkan hnamani	
Boyaga	

Of the persons named on list, list are pardoned and released to be sent to their families or released.  
 April 30, 1864  
 J. Lincoln

President Lincoln's pardon of the Indians who had been imprisoned at Camp McClellan near Davenport since the Sioux outbreak of 1862.





# ABRAHAM LINCOLN STATUES

- Upper Left—*  
By Charles Keck (Wabash, Ind.)
- Lower Left—*  
By A. A. Weinman (Hodgenville, Ky.)
- Center—*  
By George E. Bissell (Clermont, Ia.)  
Gift of William Larrabee.
- Upper Right—*  
By Gutzon Borglum (Newark, N. J.)
- Lower Right—*  
By Augustus Saint-Gaudens (Chicago)